

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.

No. 321.—VOL. 12.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1861.

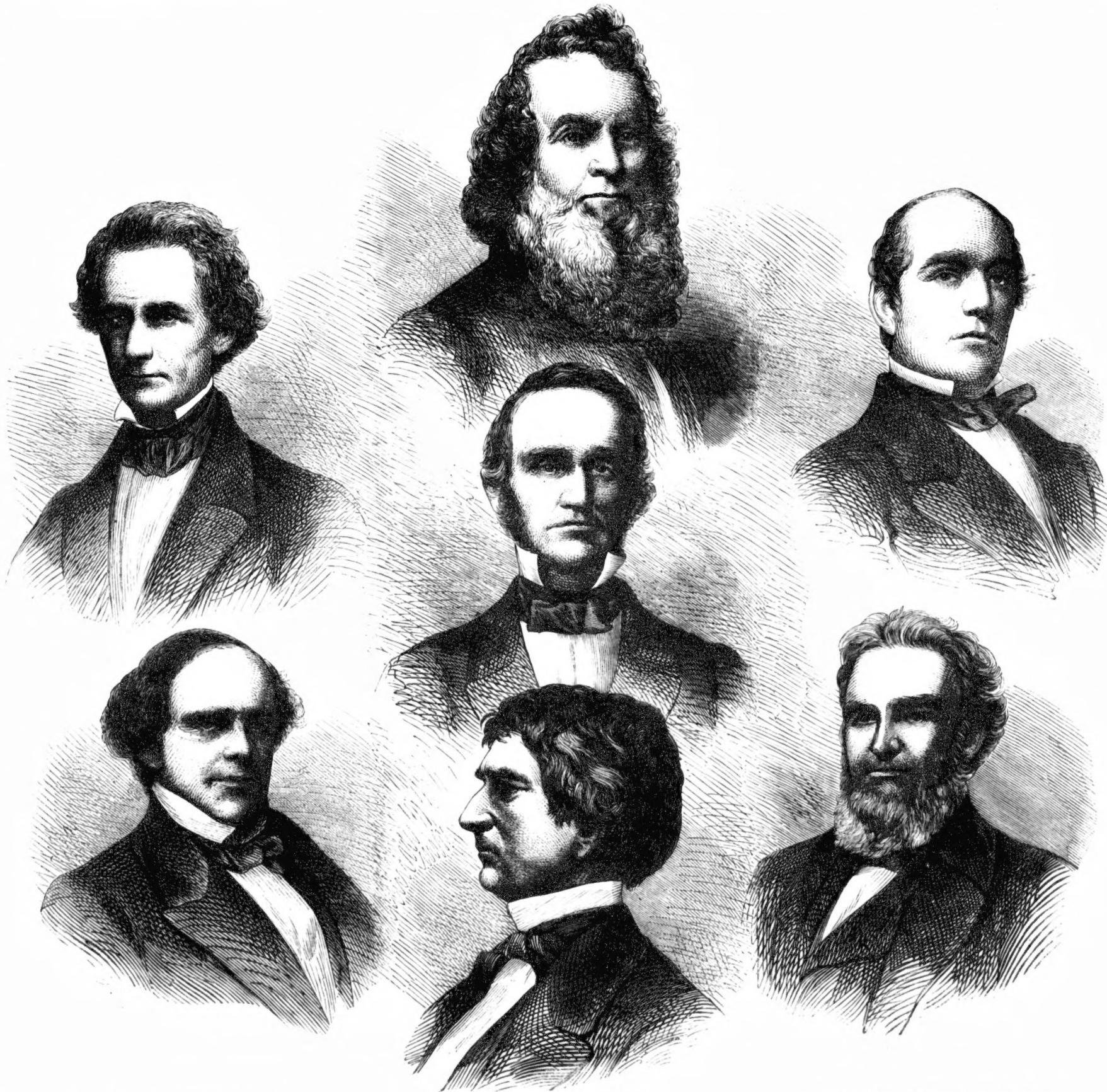
PRICE [WITH SUPPLEMENT] 4D.—STAMPED, 5D.

## THE SYRIAN QUESTION.

SINCE those days of old when the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled in the land has Syria been the cockpit of religious strife. Through long years of toil and bloodshed the Philistines contended for the mastery, until the children of Israel prevailed against them and destroyed them utterly with the edge of the sword. Ruthless conquerors were these Hebrews. They spared neither women nor children, and even the flocks and herds were involved in the same pitiless destruction. It was their "mission," they believed, to root out the heathen, and they turned not aside from the fulfilment of their appointed duty. In their turn they, too, succumbed to a victor, and the "abomination of desolation" was set up in the Holy of Holies. Years rolled on, and again foreign hosts swept through Palestine, and invocations of Allah and his Prophet supplanted the sacred hymns in praise of the Triune Jehovah. Then a cry of pity and wrath rang throughout Europe, and myriads of mail-clad warriors went forth to battle with the Paynim. The fair land that once

flowed with milk and honey was speedily converted into a sterile waste, save where the rivers of Damascus watered an earthly paradise. The Frank, the Norman, and the Saxon accepted as their joint mission the task of recovering the city of David from the grasp of the infidel, and of restoring the pure worship of the Saviour of mankind. In this, indeed, they failed; but not all bootless was their chivalrous devotion to their faith. The good they did lived after them. Arts and sciences, the love of letters, and a high sense of honour then began to be justly appreciated, and the Western World gradually emerged from the worse than Cimmerian darkness in which it had so long been immersed. But the Turk still lorded it in the Promised Land, and Islam flourished where Christianity had first dawned upon the earth. Centuries of oppression and fanatical misrule followed one another in slow succession; but neither Frank, Norman, nor Saxon troubled themselves about the wrongs of their coreligionists. Lust of power at length accomplished what religious feeling had grown too faint to

attempt, and the ambition of the Muscovite assumed the mask of the plety of the Christian. Little by little Russian intrigue loosened the dis coherent elements of the Ottoman empire. The custody of the holy places furnished a plausible pretext for diplomatic negotiations, backed by bribery and threats. By the treaty concluded between Francis I. and Sultan Suliman, the possession of the Syrian sanctuaries was guaranteed to the Latins, who thenceforth considered themselves under the peculiar protection of France. The followers of the Greek Church, however, who were both numerous and comparatively wealthy, continually disputed the title of the Latins, and the Porte was naturally disposed to favour the pretensions of its own subjects. Disgraceful scenes of violence and outrage frequently took place in the very churches, and Mohammedan soldiers were often obliged to interfere and check the intolerant ardour of the rival sectarians. After the emancipation of Greece, the Russian Government was able to act with less restraint than previously, and the late Emperor Nicholas



SIMON CAMERON, MINISTER OF WAR.  
S. P. CAICE, MINISTER OF FINANCE.

GIDEON WELLES, POSTMASTER-GENERAL.  
MONTGOMERY BLAIR, MINISTER OF MARINE.  
W. H. SEWARD, PRIME MINISTER.

CALEB B. SMITH, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS.  
EDWARD BATES, MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

THE MEMBERS OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S CABINET.—SEE PAGE 329.



openly claimed to be regarded as the head of the Greek Church in Asia. On the other hand, the French Government, whether that of Louis Philippe or of the short-lived Republic, was not less active in intriguing for the extension of the influence of France under the pretext of securing liberty of conscience and the undisturbed exercise of their religion on behalf of the Syrian Catholics. To the clashing of these rival claims was chiefly due the outbreak of the late war between Russia and the allied Powers, and a quarrel about the keys of a chapel at Bethlehem resulted in the destruction of two navies and the downfall of Sebastopol. Since that event the prestige of France has been persistently augmented by incessant agitation. By means of covert wiles and the clandestine importation of firearms the Maronites were incited and encouraged to provoke their ancient enemies, the Druses; and these, alarmed for their own safety, anticipated the impending danger by the horrible massacre that created such a painful sensation throughout Europe. In order to expiate the blood already shed by shedding more, an expeditionary force of French troops was dispatched, with the reluctant assent of the other European Powers, to co-operate with the Turks in punishing the guilty and in obtaining redress for the aggrieved. How inefficiently this task has been achieved is evident from the apprehensions entertained, or affected, of fresh disturbances on the withdrawal of the army of occupation. It is likewise worthy of note that M. Thouvenel speaks of France as now recovering her liberty of action, while, in no ambiguous terms, he asserts her right to interfere in the internal affairs of a friendly State whose independence and integrity she has so recently been foremost to guarantee. It may be received as almost an "accomplished fact" that the French troops will evacuate Syria at the date agreed upon, but with every probability of a far larger force being sent there should any new commotion arise. Such a contingency would unquestionably constitute a *casus belli*, were there any other Power prepared to go to war for "an idea." Russia would look on complacently at an act of aggression which would in some measure extenuate, if it did not justify, her own intervention on behalf of her coreligionists in European Turkey. Austria is in no condition to engage in hostilities with any foreign foe; and it is worthy of remark that in the imaginary map of Europe published some little time ago in Paris, while Syria fell to the lot of France, Egypt was assigned to Austria as the price of her complicity or acquiescence in the new allotment of territories and readjustment of boundaries. Prussia is too much occupied with insulting inoffensive travellers and in seeking a quarrel with a peaceful neighbour to be able to take a step which would expose her Rhenish provinces to invasion. England, indeed, could not contemplate without anxiety and emotion the annexation of Syria to France; but it is not so certain that she would draw the sword to avert that catastrophe. The policy which the present Ministry would pursue under such circumstances has been clearly foreshadowed in the leading journal. The public are assured that British interests would not be injuriously affected even though the tricolour flag waved from the minarets of Damascus and the Cathedral Church of Jerusalem. They are reminded of the dreary wilderness that severs Syria from Egypt, as if a French army might be expected to wander forty years between the Red Sea and Mount Sinai. Not a hint is thrown out about railways, that at other times and for other purposes are described as annihilating space; nor is the slightest allusion made to the armed colony of Frenchmen that will line the broad ditch which M. Lesseps vaguely designates as the Suez Canal. Let this scheme be ever so impracticable as a commercial speculation, it will, nevertheless, have the effect of drawing a military vallation from Pelusium to Suez, strengthened by forts at regular intervals. A fleet of twelve fast steamers is already in course of construction for the nominal purpose of trading between Egypt and China, but which at any time and at the shortest notice could be collected in the Red Sea to serve as transports. For the protection of these steam-vessels France will, of course, be entitled to keep a powerful naval squadron in the Indian seas; and it is well known that the garrison maintained in Bourbon is far greater than is at all necessary for the defence of that island. At the present moment, moreover, nearly the whole of Lower Cochin China is in the hands of our restless neighbours, whose advanced posts at New Caledonia may be said to threaten even Australia. The possession of Syria would undoubtedly further the projects of French ambition, by giving that Government an enormous moral influence throughout all Central Asia. It cannot, therefore, be a matter of indifference to this country; nor would any Ministry be justified in preserving a sullen neutrality. Besides, in common with the other European Powers, Great Britain is pledged to uphold the integrity of the Ottoman empire; and, though faith in treaties has been rudely shaken by the events of the last thirty years, we trust that British statesmen are not yet prepared to barter for ignoble ease the unblemished honour of Old England.

**DEATH FROM PRIVATION ON SHIPBOARD.**—Mr. H. Raffles Walthew, the Deputy Coroner for Middlesex, concluded an inquest yesterday week, at St. George's-in-the-East, on the body of William Burden, one of the crew of the ship *Caranto*, which arrived at Gravesend on the 9th inst. from Ceylon. The ship had been short of water, bread, and other provisions. Many of the crew were very ill, and the deceased died on the night of his arrival. From the evidence of the captain it appeared that the ship was short of the provisions mentioned, though the voyage was less than an average one, and that there never is an inspector at a foreign port to see the ship before her voyage sufficiently and properly victualled. A sample of the limejuice was found to be quite putrid, and Mr. Broadwater, the surgeon, stated that it contained sulphuretted hydrogen, and would poison any one who drank it. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from dropsy caused by scurvy, there being a deficiency of limejuice; and requested the Deputy Coroner to write to the Board of Trade suggesting the use of citric acid as a substitute for limejuice, the latter, from the medical evidence, being subject to decomposition.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### SPAIN.

The annexation of San Domingo is now formally as well as actually accomplished. The Queen of Spain has signed the decree for its ratification. An official declaration has been made that Spain will not re-establish slavery in San Domingo.

The announcement of a Cadiz journal, that warlike preparations are being made at Tangiers, has been declared without foundation.

A report is current in diplomatic circles that the Spanish Government has addressed a note to the Catholic Powers pointing out the anomalous position of the Holy See, and demanding that an end may be put to it by placing Rome under their joint protection. It is added that the Government of Vienna has given its assent to the proposal.

### AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The collection of the arrears of taxes by military execution is to be suspended, the Hungarian Diet having intimated its intention of provisionally covering the amount due until the question of the taxes has been settled.

The debate on M. Deak's proposal for the adoption of an address to the Throne was resumed on Saturday in the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet. Baron Kottos delivered a very conciliatory speech, though he declared that he considered the execution of the Emperor's diploma of February last impracticable.

The Emperor of Austria has granted a full amnesty to all those who had been condemned for political crimes by the military authorities of Trieste. His Majesty arrived in this city a few days since to meet the Empress.

### RUSSIA AND POLAND.

A portion of the troops has been at last withdrawn from the public squares of Warsaw. We learn from the *Official Gazette* of that city that the measures relating to the reforms which the Russian Government mean to introduce into the administration of Poland have been drawn up, and that Platanoff and Karnicki have left for St. Petersburg to obtain the Imperial sanction for them.

The Archbishop of Warsaw is represented to have given a decided refusal to the demand of the Lieutenant-Governor of Poland that the clergymen of Warsaw should be prohibited from singing the national hymn.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that Field Marshal Prince Bariatinski, late Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in the Caucasus, is about to leave for Paris on an important diplomatic mission.

The death of Prince Orloff, President of the Council of Ministers, is announced. The veteran soldier and statesman was raised to the office which he last held by the present Emperor. Orloff bore a distinguished part in the Russian campaign against Napoleon I., and was wounded at the battle of Borodino. In 1856 he was the first Russian Plenipotentiary sent to the Congress of Paris. Orloff was seventy-four years of age.

### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Turkish Government has become fully sensible of the necessity of regaining the confidence and attachment of the Christians in the European provinces, and has been long engaged in deliberating on measures for that purpose. We now hear that Omar Pacha has left Constantinople, carrying with him a conciliatory proclamation, promising, among other matters, a reduction of taxation and a remission of all arrears, and, it may be assumed, perfect freedom in all religious matters, as the Christians are to be allowed to have bells to their churches, which hitherto were strictly prohibited.

The International Commission held their first sitting at the residence of the Marquis de Lavalette, the French Ambassador, on Tuesday.

### DENMARK.

From a speech made by M. Hall, the Danish President of the Council of Ministers, in reply to an address presented to him last Friday, and signed by 71,000 electors, indications may be gathered that the Holstein question will have a peaceful solution. M. Hall states that the Government of the King of Denmark are willing to grant to Holstein such an independent position as may satisfy the demands made by the Federal Diet, "even if they be not founded on Federal right," provided it involve no encroachment on the government of those portions of Denmark which do not belong to the German Confederation. The Government of Denmark, M. Hall observes, are preparing for the worst contingency; but, as friendly Powers have acknowledged the conciliatory nature of the steps taken by Denmark, he still retains the hope of a peaceful arrangement, and a restoration of the good relations which it is both desirable and natural should exist between Denmark on the one side and Germany on the other.

The *Dagbladet* of Tuesday says:—"The majority of the soldiers who were lately called in will be allowed to go on furlough at the end of the present month. Three-fourths of the army will then be placed on a peace footing."

### INDIA.

The Bombay mail again conveys the gratifying intelligence that India is quiet. The scheme for the amalgamation of the British and Indian armies has been published, and appears to be regarded as an equitable arrangement. The native regiments are gradually to become irregular troops. The large sums sent from England in aid of the Famine Relief Fund had been received with feelings of lively gratitude. Though the famine was still very grievous, the distress had been greatly alleviated by the generous subscriptions from all quarters, and a fall in grain had further mitigated the pressure, though there was still need of every rupee that can be raised.

A deputation of the Talookdars of Oude waited on the Viceroy at Calcutta on the 16th of April, and were received in grand durbar. After the formal presentation, homage, and decoration of the Talookdars, Maharajah Maun Singh read to the Viceroy a lengthy address reciting the benefits conferred on the province of Oude by English rule:—

As natives of Hindostan, we do not consider our houses our own if the land on which they stand does not belong to us in perpetual right; and we do not look upon the people of the house as our own if we have no control over them. Nothing so much as this could give vigour to our mind and induce us to offer up prayers to the Almighty for the prosperity of the British Government. In following the course they did on these two points the object of your Excellency's agents above named was not only to consult our happiness, but also to strengthen the ties of affection which subsist between us and the British Government, and have given stability to our State. There is the Talookdare settlement, which has not only contributed to remove the fears of the people, but re-established peace, which is only a drop in the ocean of its good effects. On careful observation it will be found that the signs of the contentment of the people, such as the establishment of bazaars and gardens, the erection of houses, and the excavation of tanks and wells, were fewer under the former settlement with the Zemindars than in the thirty-three months of the experiment of the present settlement. By the arrangements made in the judicial department every poor ryot, without incurring expense, without undergoing the trouble of resorting to a Court at a distant place, without the intervention of the Amil, can get his case decided by his own Talookdar, who understands his affairs.

In concluding our address, we fervently pray Almighty God to continue to maintain over us the protection of her Majesty and your Excellency, and to dispose the hearts of us and our descendants to pray, and our tongues to praise, because we can give no other return for all these favours.

**PRINCE MURAT AND PRINCE NAPOLEON.**—Prince Napoleon was elected Grand Master of the Freemasons of France, in place of Prince Murat, on Wednesday. The latter, who has held the office for, we believe, the last seven years, will no doubt feel deeply humiliated by his deposition from his high position, and the ill-will between the two Princes which has been created by the hostile candidature of Prince Napoleon will be greatly aggravated by the success of the latter. It is reported that Prince Murat, a few days since, challenged Prince Napoleon, and it is not unlikely that he will now insist on its acceptance.

## ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

### THE ITALIAN KINGDOM.

In Monday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies Signor Tecchio directed the attention of the House to the recent circulars issued by Count Rechberg on the state of things at Venice. He concluded by recommending Venice to the attention of the King and the Italian Parliament. Count Cavour thanked Signor Tecchio for having brought the question under the consideration of the House. He said:—"I do not doubt the present liberal intentions of the Austrian Ministers; they will always, however, meet with insurmountable obstacles in Venice. This fact is principally important from its influence on public opinion in Germany, where liberal ideas are now progressing." The following order of the day was then adopted:—"The Chamber, having heard with extreme interest the recital of the sufferings of Venice, passes to the order of the day."

The Minister of the Interior stated lately that, although some difficulties of administration exist in the Neapolitan provinces, there is nothing there which can be considered politically dangerous.

The decree published at Messina ordering a levy of the people for the national army—a novelty in Sicily—has been received with enthusiasm.

At Milan the Capitulary Vicar had prohibited the clergy from taking part in the approaching national fête. The Canons and Curés of the city replied in a respectful letter that they would obey, but that they disapproved of the measure. Some popular demonstrations against the Capitulary Vicar followed his injunction. The escutcheon on the door of his Palace was destroyed by the populace; and considerable temper still prevails.

The exiled Hungarian chiefs in Italy are exhibiting much restlessness. Kossuth is announced as having arrived at Turin, where he will have a conference with General Klapka on the return of the latter from Caprera.

### THE PAPAL STATES.

A petition addressed by the inhabitants of Rome to the Emperor Napoleon, requesting the evacuation of Rome by the French troops, and bearing 10,000 signatures, has been dispatched to Paris, notwithstanding the efforts of the police to prevent it.

Cardinal Antonelli has addressed a circular to the diplomatic body at Rome protesting against the sale by the Italian Government of the convents and other church property, and warning intending purchasers of the guilt they incur and the risk they run by participating in the spoliation of Holy Mother Church.

The Duke de Grammont, French Minister at Rome, is about to leave that city for a short time, and to return to France, in order to recruit his health at the mineral springs of Vichy.

## THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

The news from America is of a most warlike character. The martial spirit of the North is fairly roused, and the spirit of the South is as fiery as ever. Not a breath is heard about compromise; and every energy is being put forth for the conflict, which may even now have commenced.

An official correspondence between Mr. Seward and Mr. Dayton, the American Minister in Paris, on the subject of the recognition by the French Government of the independence of the Government of the Confederate States, has been published. Mr. Seward requests Mr. Dayton to explain to the French Government that there is not now, nor has there been, nor will there be, any the least idea entertained by the Government of the United States of suffering a dissolution of the Union to take place in any way whatever; and that the thought of a dissolution of the Union, peaceably or by force, has never entered into the mind of any candid statesman here, and that it is high time that it be dismissed by statesmen in Europe.

Advices to the 11th inform us that the Federal Government had telegraphed to New York for five thousand stand of arms. The President of the Defence Committee had telegraphed to Albany to the Governor of New York requesting him to send more troops to Washington, as reliable information had been received that the capital was in imminent peril. Senator Wigfall had announced that 100,000 Southerners were on their way to Washington, and that President Lincoln and his Cabinet would be captured less than they retreated before the middle of June. Active preparations were going on in all the Northern States, and troops from every point were advancing in the direction of Washington. A forward movement of national troops on Baltimore had been commenced. The Governor of Virginia had issued a proclamation declaring his intention to resist any invasion of the State, and authorising the General of the Army to call out as many volunteers as may be necessary. The Virginians had taken possession of the heights on the Maryland side of the River Potomac, and were engaged in fortifying them. The Virginians have also seized the steamer *William Seldon* which communicated between Old Point and Norfolk. Large bodies of troops from the South were advancing into Virginia.

The Militia Company of St. Louis, having been supposed to be hostile to the Federal Government, had been disarmed by Federal forces. The mob fired on the Federal troops, who returned the fire, killing twenty of the populace, including two women and several children.

The Pennsylvania Legislature had passed a bill for a loan of 4,000,000 dollars, and fifteen additional regiments beyond what the President had called for.

The Maryland Legislative Committee had adopted resolutions condemning the Federal policy, but recognising their obligations to the Union, and requesting the President to cease war until Congress assembles.

The Governor of Tennessee had sent a message to the Legislature of that State condemning the war policy of President Lincoln as bloody and tyrannical, and urging the Legislature to pass a Secession ordinance and join the Confederate States—the Secession ordinance to be submitted to a vote of the people of the State, to be by them adopted or rejected. He also recommends that the State should be put upon a war footing immediately. The Secession ordinance had been passed. A military bill had also passed calling for 55,000 troops.

The Governor of North Carolina, in a message to the Legislature of that State, declares President Lincoln to be a usurper, and says that the time has arrived when the people of North Carolina must separate from the North; that all fraternity of feeling is lost between them, and that there must be a separation at once and for ever. He, therefore, urges that a convention of the people should be called to pass a Secession ordinance, and declare their union with the Confederate States—the powers of the convention to be full, and its action final.

Arkansas had passed a Secession ordinance.

The Southern Congress had passed a law recognising the existence of war with the Federal Government, and an Act had also been passed for granting letters of marque. The Vice-President of the Confederate States, in a warlike speech at Atlanta, had declared that if Maryland seceded the Confederate States would claim Washington, as the right district of Columbia would fall by reversionary right to Maryland. Advices from Montgomery state that there is a prospect of the seat of Government and the Congress of the Confederate States being removed to Richmond, Virginia. It is stated that the South has sufficient ordnance, &c., at its disposal to put 150,000 men into the field for a year's campaign.

It is likely that public attention will soon be fixed on Fort Pickens as it was on Fort Sumter, for we read that General Bragg is making active preparations for an attack. The latest advices state that six Federal war vessels were off the fort.

In some parts of the South strong apprehensions of a slave insurrection are said to be entertained.

Extensive preparations are said to have been made at New



Orleans for going into the privateering business—a joint-stock company, with a capital of several millions of dollars having been formed for that purpose. Letters of marque, it was stated, had already been issued for the Calhoun, the N. N. Webb, and the Matagorda, and the steamer Havannah had been purchased and fully armed. The notorious yacht Wanderer had also been purchased. The cutter Harriet Harriet Lane had captured one privateer.

The Great Eastern is lying below New York. The Government is in treaty for employing her as a transport ship.

### THE HUNGARIAN DEMANDS.

The following extracts from M. Deak's speech in the Hungarian Diet will give our readers an idea of the views of the leading statesman of Hungary, who is, it is believed, supported by the great majority of the nation. He thus objected to the diploma of October 20:—

This diploma deprives Hungary of its ancient constitutional right to determine in its own Diet all questions relating to taxation and the raising of troops. It takes the right from the nation to legislate, in concert with its King, independently, on the most important material and public interests. Financial and military affairs, customs and commerce, these most essential questions of the political life of a nation, are placed in the hands of a common Imperial Council, where they would be decided upon for Hungary by a foreign majority, and not from a Hungarian point of view and interest. And even in the internal government this diploma makes the Hungarian Administration dependent on the Austrian—from a Government which is not responsible, and which, even if it was responsible, would not be so to Hungary, but to the Council of the Empire, where our interests, when they differ from theirs, would never find any guarantee in face of a foreign majority.

M. Deak next quoted the Pragmatic Sanction, and several old laws confirmed by successive Kings, to show that the union between Hungary and the empire was merely personal and dynastic. After pointing out that the hereditary provinces are connected with the Germanic Confederation while Hungary is not, M. Deak went on to say:—

It is brought up against us that the general interests of the Austrian empire are the chief consideration, to which the single parts must submit their special interests. I don't doubt the truth of such an argument with respect to an empire which has the same constitutional position, the component parts of which are unconditionally united with each other, and which are connected by a closer, a real union. But Hungary has made a compact with the dynasty, and not with the hereditary provinces. It has made a compact about the succession, and not about a closer union with the other provinces; on the contrary, it has stipulated in that compact its independence. This stipulation Hungary will be ever ready to observe; but it has no intention to change it, to substitute a closer union, and thus to abdicate its independence.

He continued:—

Therefore, we cannot consent that the questions of taxation and of the raising of troops should be withdrawn in any way from the Hungarian Diet. As we do not wish to exercise the right of legislation over any other country, so with regard to Hungary we cannot share this right with any one except the King of Hungary; we cannot make the Government and Administration dependent on any one except the King of Hungary, and we will not unite it with the Government and Administration of any other country; therefore, we will take no part in any Council of the Empire, or any Imperial representation.

Another essential point about which it is our duty to speak immediately is the completion of the Diet. Transylvania, Croatia, Slavonia, the military frontier lands, Fiume and the maritime district, are not represented in the Diet, because they have not been summoned, and yet they form integral parts of the Diet, and ought to have been summoned according to the clear disposition of the law. Until this is done the integrity of the kingdom, and hence the Pragmatic Sanction, is violated.

M. Deak then says that there is no obstacle to the appearance of the Transylvanian deputies, and shows how the union was voluntary between the two countries, and sanctioned by King Ferdinand V. He hopes

that the non-Magyar citizens of Transylvania will not apprehend a danger to their nationality from such a renewed union, and that they will find a complete guarantee in what will be done with respect to the non-Magyar races in Hungary.

As regards Croatia, we don't pretend that our larger number of representatives should decide about their conditions and demands. Croatia has a territory of her own, a separate position; it never was incorporated with Hungary, but was only united with us; it was our companion, who has shared in our rights and obligations—our good and evil fortunes. If, therefore, Croatia wishes to take part in our legislation as a kingdom, and if she wishes to come to an understanding with us on the conditions under which she wishes to re-establish her constitutional condition with Hungary; if she wants to negotiate with us in this respect as a nation with a nation, we are ready to enter with her into negotiations; we demand only that Croatia should not be impeded in sending her deputies to the Diet, and that thus both she and we should have an opportunity to come to an understanding.

Until all those who must be summoned according to law to the Diet are summoned, we cannot consider the Diet as complete, and we cannot enter into any legislative subject or into any negotiation about the coronation.

There is another subject which we cannot pass over in silence at this first occasion, and this is, that our most essential fundamental laws—nominally those of 1848—have been and are still suspended. We have no Parliamentary Government, no responsible Ministry. The trial by jury and the law on the press have not been re-established. In defiance of our most distinct laws, the taxes have been fixed without the Diet by sheer arbitrary power; indirect taxes unknown to our laws, and never accepted by the nation, have been introduced; and all these illegal direct and indirect taxes are still exacted; nay, in order to destroy all our faith in the abolition of the absolutist system, as a bitter satire, absolute power has made lately ordinances by which these illegal taxes are levied by armed force. And this is done at a moment when the Diet is assembled, and the nation is asked to perform its part of the Pragmatic Sanction—to crown when, on the other side, there seems not the slightest serious intention to fulfil the obligations imposed by that contract.

One of the clear conditions of the Pragmatic Sanction is that the King should maintain all laws passed by the Diet. The laws which absolute power has suspended were enacted in a legal way and sanctioned, and until the nation consents to their change they remain binding. To suspend them is to break the conditions of the Pragmatic Sanction.

Parliamentary government, a responsible Ministry, trial by jury, liberty of the press, and the right of taxation are the chief guarantees of constitutional freedom. Laws sanctioned by our Monarchs gave us these guarantees, and we shall never consent to their repeal or limitation, and we regard their suspension as the annihilation of our Constitution.

Another subject which M. Deak touches in his project of an address is the illegality of the documents communicated to the Diet about the abdication of Ferdinand V. He protests against this abdication as a precedent, and demands that both Ferdinand and his brother Francis, the father of Francis Joseph, should address a separate document to the Hungarian Diet announcing their abdication of the crown of Hungary. Then he alludes to those who, in consequence of the decrees of the arbitrary power, are either still in prison or exiled:—

We consider these arbitrary acts as incompatible with the restoration of a legal state of things, and therefore we consider them as having ceased; and until all impediments to the return of our countrymen exiled for political offences are removed, until those still imprisoned are liberated, until the confiscated property is restored, we have no faith in the cessation of the absolutist system, and without this faith it would be useless to discuss any matters.

The address concludes as follows:—

A King of Hungary becomes only legally King of Hungary by coronation. There are legal conditions attached to this coronation which are indispensable. The inviolate maintenance of our constitutional independence, the territorial and political integrity of the kingdom, the completion of the Diet, the revival of Parliamentary government and of the responsible Ministry, the cessation of all the consequences of the absolutist system pursued for the last twelve years, are the preliminary conditions, without which no discussion or negotiation is possible.

**SPANISH ARMAMENTS.**—The Ministers of her Most Catholic Majesty have resolved to build five vessels of 800-horse power, two of 600, one of 1000, one of 450, one of 1250 (iron plated), one of 1000 (iron plated), one of 350, and three iron-plated ships of gun-boats of 250. Of these, two are to be built in the Thames—both wooden ships. One is to be built in France, and the others are to be constructed in Spain.

### THE SYRIAN QUESTION.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of Wednesday publishes a letter addressed by Prince Gortschakoff to Count Kisseleff, the Russian Ambassador at Paris, in which the Prince says:—"We call the attention of the representatives of the foreign Cabinets to the danger incurred by the departure of the French troops from Syria. For our own part we decline to share the responsibility in regard to the results of such a resolution, the consequences of which we have foreseen and pointed out."

Said Bey Djemblad, the celebrated Druse chief, whose trial and condemnation have been so much advertised upon, has died in prison. Convicted of participation in the massacre of the Christians, his execution was demanded by France, but was suspended at the instigation of England. The Porte, in order to get out of the difficulty of deciding in favour of one of the two Western Powers, is accused of having put the prisoner to death in the old Ottoman fashion. But, as acts of this kind have passed away even in Turkey, it seems more fair to suppose that he died of the anxiety caused by his captivity.

### IRELAND.

**DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO MURDER.**—A shocking attempt to murder was made by Henry Carter on Bell, one of the wardens of the Richmond Prison, Dublin, on Saturday. Carter, a deserter, is undergoing a term of six months' imprisonment for an assault committed on two police constables. On Saturday Bell had occasion to visit the cell in which the prisoner was confined, when the latter sprang upon him, and with a razor inflicted two frightful wounds on his neck. The wounded man is in a very precarious state.

### THE PROVINCES.

**PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE.**—Mr. George Crawshaw, of Tynemouth House, having refused to pay the sum of £9 8s. 11d. levied upon him for assessed taxes, on the ground that, in his opinion, the war in China was illegal and unjustifiable, and this not being considered a valid reason for his non-payment of the tax, Mr. T. D. Hadaway, collector of the Queen's taxes, North Shields, proceeded yesterday week, under the authority of the Board of Inland Revenue, with the sale of certain articles of Mr. Crawshaw's household furniture to obtain the amount due. The first article put up was a rosewood worktable, which brought 16s. The next was an easy-chair, which realised £4 18s., it being purchased by the auctioneer. After this, two easy-chairs, covered with Utrecht velvet, were introduced: the sum obtained was £2 16s. for each chair. A set of mahogany dining-tables was then put up, and purchased for the sum of £5. A feather bed was sold for £2 7s. This concluded the sale, the auctioneer announcing that sufficient money had been obtained to meet the amount due, with expenses. The amount realised by the sale was £15 13s. The amount due for the taxes, together with the expenses, will be between £13 and £14, so that Mr. Crawshaw will have a small balance to receive. The sale was conducted in a quiet and orderly manner, and for every article put up there was competition.

**REMARKABLE CASE.**—Mr. John King, bricklayer and farmer, expired on the 3rd inst., after a week of severe illness, in the fifty-second year of his age. A brutal attack was made on him by a man named Purver, a native of Fulborough, five years since, when Mr. King was frightfully cut and wounded. It was thought that he could not possibly survive, and indeed he never but partially recovered from the wounds he received. The next morning after the attack Purver was found asleep in the cabin of a barge, and in his possession was a clasp-knife covered with blood, the point of the blade of which was broken. It was thought to have been recently done, but the man Purver positively declared that the blade was broken before his attack on the deceased. Since King's death his head has been examined, and the top of a knife, about half an inch in length, and, although quite black, very bright, was extracted from it. The deceased must have suffered intensely at times from its remaining in his skull.

**FIRE IN A LIVERPOOL COTTON WAREHOUSE.**—On Monday morning a fire was discovered in a warehouse chiefly filled with cotton. Cotton was being delivered from a crane into the warehouse, and while hoisting the bales one of them was observed to be on fire. It was immediately lowered and pitched into the street, but almost simultaneously with this it was discovered that other bales delivered into the warehouse were in a state of combustion, and almost instantly several of them were in flames. The fire made rapid progress at first, and some time elapsed before it was overcome, and its extension to the adjoining property prevented. There were about 4000 bales in the warehouse, a large portion of which is destroyed, and the remainder more or less damaged. As regards the building, little less than the walls is left standing. The damage to the cotton is estimated at about £5000.

**FESTIVAL AT WOLVERTON.**—A grand festival took place on Monday at Wolverton on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the Mechanics' Institute, the site for which, near the church, has been granted by the directors of the London and North-Western Railway Company. The Bishop of Oxford, who is also very popular with the inhabitants, the great majority of whom are engineers and mechanics, preached a sermon in the parish church, assisted at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone, and delivered an address to the people at the tea party in the evening. The company at tea, mustering between two and three thousand persons, was presided over by Miss Burdett Coutts.

**ROMAN REMAINS.**—The city of York, the ancient Eboracum, is a prolific field for Roman remains. The finding of a portion of the ancient Roman city wall, discovered in making some excavations near Monk Bar, or the eastern gate of the city, has been recently mentioned. Last week some equally interesting remains were found in the digging of the foundation for a house on the Mount, the southern suburb, which was that part of the city in which the Romans interred their dead. Among the articles found are various articles of pottery, either sepulchral urns or vessels of domestic use, including one of the small earthenware vessels employed in feeding infants by the hand, of which some specimens may be seen in the museum of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. A very perfect and beautiful example was also found of the glass jar which sometimes took the place of pottery as a receptacle for the ashes of the dead. When extracted from the earth it was half filled with bones. The glass is partially opacified by long lying in the ground, but has happily escaped fracture. The most curious, however, of the antiquities discovered here is a tablet of grit stone, dedicated by her father to the manes of Cornelia Optata, who died at the age of thirteen. It is in hexameter verse, and the father, bewailing his hard lot, declares that he has placed an image of his daughter over the handful of ashes which alone remained of her. The upper part of the tablet which contained this figure has been broken off, only the feet remaining.

**COLLISION BETWEEN VOLUNTEERS AND MILITIA.**—On Monday evening a collision occurred at Wrexham between the 7th Lancashire Artillery Volunteers and the Denbighshire Militia. The volunteers were on a holiday excursion, and the militia, having on Monday closed their allotted number of days for drill, &c., fraternised with the volunteers. No hostile feeling was manifested until the latter were marching to the station in the evening to proceed homewards, when they were assailed by the militia, and a violent encounter took place, during which sticks and stones were so freely used that one of the militia was, it is feared, mortally injured, and many men on both sides very much hurt. The police interfered, but without avail. At length Captain McGinn arrived, and his influence was powerful enough to withdraw the militia. The men had no bayonets, else the scene might have been a most sanguinary one.

**ACCIDENT TO A VAN OF LUNATICS.**—On Thursday week the female lunatics of the Bodmin Asylum were sent, as usual in fine weather, to Polzeath beach, in St. Minver, to enjoy the sea-breezes. On arriving at the top of Polzeath-hill the driver of the van was thrown out, and broke his leg. One of the nurses, who was sitting by his side, immediately jumped out, and the reins were left dangling. The poor unfortunate souls inside, finding something was wrong, began to be uneasy, and their cries and gestures must have frightened the horses, who set off at great speed down the hill leading to the beach. The van was upset, and many of the inmates bruised and damaged.

**A DESPERATE WOMAN.**—A few days since two county-court bailiffs, named John Humphries and James Poole, went to levy an execution in the house of a collier named Terry living at Cosely. A woman named Parkes lived with Terry. When the bailiffs entered the woman became very violent; she declared she would blow the house up, and catching hold of a bag containing 31lb. of gunpowder she threw it on the fire. Providentially it lodged on the top bar, and one of the bailiffs had time to snatch it away, and thus the lives of six or seven persons were saved, for the powder in the bag was quite sufficient to have blown both the house and its inmates to the winds. Humphries raked the fire out immediately, and while he was doing this the woman Parkes struck him a violent blow over the head with the poker, while Terry attempted to throw some fire on the bag of powder, but his intention was defeated, and he was handcuffed. Parkes, however, still persisted in her attempts, and, seizing two handfuls of powder, threw them on the fire; but the explosions that ensued happily produced no injury. Both parties were eventually lodged in gaol.

**ACCIDENT TO VOLUNTEER ARTILLERYMEN.**—At a grand field-day and sham fight on Monday at Westbury-common, near Plymouth, a terrible accident occurred to two artillerymen named Bradbeer and Denscombe. By some strange oversight they forgot to keep the sponge wet, and while

ramming home the charge the piece suddenly exploded. When the smoke had cleared away the two men were seen lying right and left upon the ground. Denscombe had received frightful injuries. The ramrod had shattered his right arm to pieces, and the wadding had completely smashed in his face. It was thought he could not survive. Bradbeer also received severe injuries.

**SUNDAY-SCHOOL JUBILEE AT HALIFAX.**—Every five years since the celebration of the jubilee of the Sunday-school Union in 1831 the children of the Halifax Sunday-schools, numbering many thousands, have been gathered together, and a choral fête has been held to commemorate the occasion. On Monday the sixth of these commemorative festivals was held in the Piece Hall, and it passed off with an amount of success which threw its predecessors entirely into the shade. For fully two hours the living stream of children continued to flow into the hall. At twelve o'clock there were upon the ground 27,561 children and teachers, besides 500 instrumentalists, and 350 skilled vocalists—making a total of 28,411 performers. The spectators numbered 8400. The children sang beautifully; several of the pieces being encored with enthusiasm.

**LETTERS OF MARQUE.**—We are informed that there are at present in the port of Liverpool several vessels being fitted up for the purpose of privateering. These vessels are now awaiting the return from America of parties interested in this buccannery business, with the necessary "diploma" from Montgomery, the seat of the rebel Government in the South. In the Liverpool underwriters' rooms the following significant notice has been posted up:—"New York, May 8. The Montgomery Conference yesterday passed an Act recognising war with the United States, and authorising the granting of letters of marque and reprisal, for which applications are very numerous. A proviso annexes that free ships make free goods, and thirty days are allowed to Federal vessels in the ports of the Confederate States to return home." In the Prince's Dock, Liverpool, on Monday, for the first time since the civil discord in the United States, an American vessel hoisted the flag of the Confederate States in an English port.

**A VOLUNTEER TRAINING-GROUND.**—The difficulty in obtaining butts for rifle practice has suggested the formation of a Volunteer Training-ground and Rifle-range Company (Limited), with a capital of £100,000, to be raised in 50,000 £2 shares. The chairman of the company is the Duke of Manchester, and he is supported, among others, by General Sir John Aitchison, Lord Bury, Lieutenant-Colonel Hicks, and Colonel O'Halloran. These gentlemen have selected a site for the camp at Sutton, a village on the Epsom branch of the London and Brighton line. This site has been inspected and approved by Colonel M'Murdo; and Lord Herbert, on the part of the War Office, has given his consent.

**THE BISHOP OF RIPON.**—The affair which brought the Bishop of Ripon before the notice of the House of Commons lately may be briefly recounted thus:—In the parish churchyard at Richmond a tombstone, in the form of an ornamental cone, with a crown of thorns encircling the sacred monogram "I.H.S.," and having the following inscription:—"Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of William Priestman, who departed this life September 6, 1860, aged sixty-two years. R.I.P. Eternal rest give to him, O Lord. Miserere mei Deus," had been erected. The Bishop of Ripon ordered its removal in consequence of the purgatorial doctrine implied in the inscription.

**BURIED ALIVE.**—A melancholy accident took place on Saturday at Chatham, by which two lives were sacrificed, both the unfortunate persons being buried alive, by the falling in of an immense body of chalk and earth upon them, at a spot at the foot of Chatham-hill where workmen have been employed in the removal of a mass of chalk from a small cliff which was in course of destruction. It would appear that the most culpable negligence was observed by the workmen engaged in excavating the earth, as, instead of exercising due caution in the removal of the chalk from the top of the cliff, they followed the directly opposite course, by excavating at the base, and this negligent arrangement led to the unfortunate sacrifice of two lives.

**NICE.**—The following is an extract from a letter dated Nice, May 14:—"The annexation has led to an increase of local taxation for which the people of Nice were hardly prepared. The municipal revenue, which a few years back averaged but 70,000*fr.*, or about £3000 (the produce chiefly of octroi dues), has this year to be raised to 600,000*fr.*, and it is said that to meet the expenses of next year 800,000*fr.* will be required. To get together this money the old local imports are being extended to every conceivable article of consumption. Eggs and chickens, which were exempt, are now to pay, the latter 2*fr.* each, and the former 2*fr.* per dozen. Shopkeepers are to pay for their sundries at the rate of 1*fr.* per month for every yard of blind. Lime is to be taxed, dogs are to be taxed, fruit-barrows in the street are to be taxed, and even sea-water is to be taxed when fetched in barrels for a bath. Of course, the few people in Nice once favourable to annexation have now ceased to be so; and the extra police for which these taxes are imposed, including a large secret service of spies, is exceedingly unpopular. Scarcely a night passes without some rioting between the townspeople and the crews of the French ships stationed here."

### THE MINISTRY OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

If it be at all times a matter of interest to know the sort of men whom a newly-elected President of the United States gathers around him, the formation of the Washington Cabinet is at the present juncture a question of more than usual importance. Whether the men whom President Lincoln has summoned to his Council are equal to the critical circumstances in which the Union at present stands the future alone can determine. It is, however, certain, on the one hand, that they are all conspicuous leaders of the Republican party; and, on the other hand, that their antecedents afford a fair guarantee for their moderation and intelligence.

The Premier, W. H. Seward, has hitherto been the head and most notable organ of the Republican party. He was born on the 16th of May, 1801, in Orange county, State of New York. He received his education in the Union College, where, in the year 1820, he obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy, and in the following year he settled in the city of Auburn, where he practised at the Bar. In 1830 he was elected a member of the Senate of New York. In 1834 he became a candidate for the post of Governor of that State; but March, who was afterwards Franklin Pierce's Minister of War, was chosen in his stead. In 1839 his party again set him forward as a candidate for the same post, and he was then triumphantly elected. Ten years subsequently Seward was nominated by the Legislative Assembly of the State of New York a Senator of the United States for the space of six years, and in 1855 he was again elected for the same interval. At the Republican Convention (assembled a few years ago at Chicago) Seward was one of the most distinguished candidates for the presidency; but his pretensions to this very natural goal of his ambition were thwarted by a celebrated journalist, Abraham Lincoln. However, his statesmanlike qualities and his powerful influence rendered his aid indispensable to the party in power, and as a matter of necessity he became the head of Lincoln's Cabinet.

S. P. Chase, the new Finance Minister (Secretary of the Treasury), was born in the year 1808, at Washington, in Ohio. He received his early education at Cincinnati College, of which his uncle, Bishop Chase, was President. Chase left that institution to proceed to New Hampshire, where his mother's family were settled, and he finished his studies at Dartmouth College. Having passed his examination in 1821, he removed to Washington, where he studied the law under the auspices of William Wirt, then Attorney-General of the United States. He practised at the Bar in Cincinnati, and afterwards became a Senator of the United States. He twice had the honour of being elected Governor of Ohio.

Simon Cameron, Lincoln's War Minister (Secretary of War), is a Pennsylvanian, and was born in Lancaster county, in 1792. Having lost his father at a very early age he was obliged, even in his boyhood, to depend on his own efforts for support. In 1816 he settled at Harrisburg, where he became an assistant in a printing-office kept by a Mr. Peacock. His frugality, industry, and regular habits of life gained him many friends, and his excellent character obtained for him the same advantages when, at a later period, he removed to Washington. There he obtained employment as a compositor in a newspaper-office. His endeavours to better his position gained for him in 1832 the appointment of Visitor at Westpoint, a post which none but the most distinguished citizens are considered worthy to fill. During the last thirty years Simon Cameron has employed himself in railway and banking business, and, though in all his transactions he is admitted to have a very keen eye to his own interest, yet his reputation for strict probity has always been unblemished. His political career commenced in 1845, when he became a Senator of the United States for Pennsylvania.



Caleb B. Smith, Minister of the Interior, is a Yankee by birth. He was born at Boston, on the 16th of April, 1808. In 1814 he removed with his parents to Ohio, and received his education in the Cincinnati College and the Miami Union. He devoted himself to the profession of the law, and settled in Indiana, where, in 1832, he established a newspaper on Whig principles, entitled the *Indiana Sentinel*. In 1833 he was elected to the Legislature, and from 1843 to 1850 he was the member for Boston in the House of Representatives at Washington. From 1850 until his appointment in the Cabinet of President Lincoln he again practised as an advocate in Cincinnati.

Gideon Wells, the Postmaster-General, has for the space of forty years been actively engaged in the field of politics. He is a native of the State of Cincinnati, and was originally a Democrat; but of late years has fallen into the ranks of the Republicans. Van Buren made him Postmaster at Hartford; but in 1840 he gave up that post. Under Polk's presidency he received an appointment in the Marine Department, in which he evinced much ability. On the revocation of the Missouri Compromise Wells abandoned the Democratic party; and during the contests relating to Kansas and Nebraska he became the violent opponent of his former political friends. In 1860 he was one of the delegates to the Convention of Chicago, and he was also a member of the committee appointed to nominate Lincoln in Springfield.

Edward Bates, the Attorney-General, one of the most able lawyers of the Union, was born in the year 1793, at Goochland, in Virginia. His father having a large family and a small income, Edward Bates was obliged at an early age to labour for his own subsistence. In 1814 he proceeded to St. Louis, where he studied the law under the superintendence of the advocate Rufus Caston. In 1817 he began to practise at the Bar, and his high talent secured to him considerable emolument. As a politician he has uniformly been moderate and consistent.

Montgomery Blair, the Minister of Marine in the present Cabinet of the North American Union, is the son of Francis B. Blair, who, in the days of President Jackson, was a man of high repute. Montgomery Blair was educated at Westpoint, in New York, where he passed a very honourable examination. He pursued his legal studies at St. Louis, and Pierce made him a member of the Court of Claims, of which post, however, Buchanan deprived him. Of late years he has resided at Montgomery Castle, near Silver Spring, in Maryland, where he has been much respected and beloved.

It will be seen from the above that the Cabinet of President Lincoln, with the exception of two of its members, is entirely composed of lawyers. When it is recollected that the President himself in early life intended to follow the profession of the law it may fairly be expected that the Government of the Union will, at all events, betray no deficiency of legal knowledge.

#### THE SECESSIONIST LEADER, THE HON. ROBERT BARNWELL RHETT.

THE American difficulty is as far as ever from the hope of any pacific solution, and by the news which is contained in other columns it is evident that a desperate and ruinous civil war will at once destroy the union of the States and materially injure the commercial prospects not only of America

but of such European countries as have constant business relations with the United States' people. The Secessionist agitators have certainly taken upon themselves a serious responsibility, and it

one. Mounted gendarmes were present, who tried to cut off the crowd, but to no purpose, for they joined the procession again by by-lanes and back streets.

remains to be seen whether they are still determined to pursue that violent hostility towards the North which breathes not only in their speeches but in the ordinary conversation of Southern States' people. The Americans, whether Northern or Southern, are a race neither easily frightened nor easily turned from a purpose, and a terrible reality hangs over the vast and beautiful country whose sons are arrayed one against the other. The very faces of the leaders on each side forbid the hope of any sudden change of purpose: in the fiery, impulsive characteristics of the South, and in the determined lineaments of the North, may equally be read the terrible ordeal through which the great Republic has to pass. We have already presented our readers with the Portraits of some of the principal actors in American affairs, and this week we are able to avail ourselves of that of the active Secessionist leader, the Hon. Robert Barnwell Rhett.

#### THE COSSACK TROOPS IN WARSAW.

WARSAW has been made a camp, while the people have become subject to military law—circumstances the more loathsome, inasmuch as they are ridden down, oppressed, and insulted by troops who have been sent to them for this express purpose—men who speak a different language and have none of the sympathy which long residence had given to the Russian regiments, who forbore to fire on the people whom they had learned to regard with esteem, even though by the refusal they disobeyed military command.

It was stated by observers of the recent disturbances that the Cossack troops charged upon the unarmed people after having been purposely excited by drink to do their desperate work; and the whole policy of the military government at Warsaw has been that of crushing the feeling of nationality out of the people, who hate them with a suppressed force all the greater for the attempt.

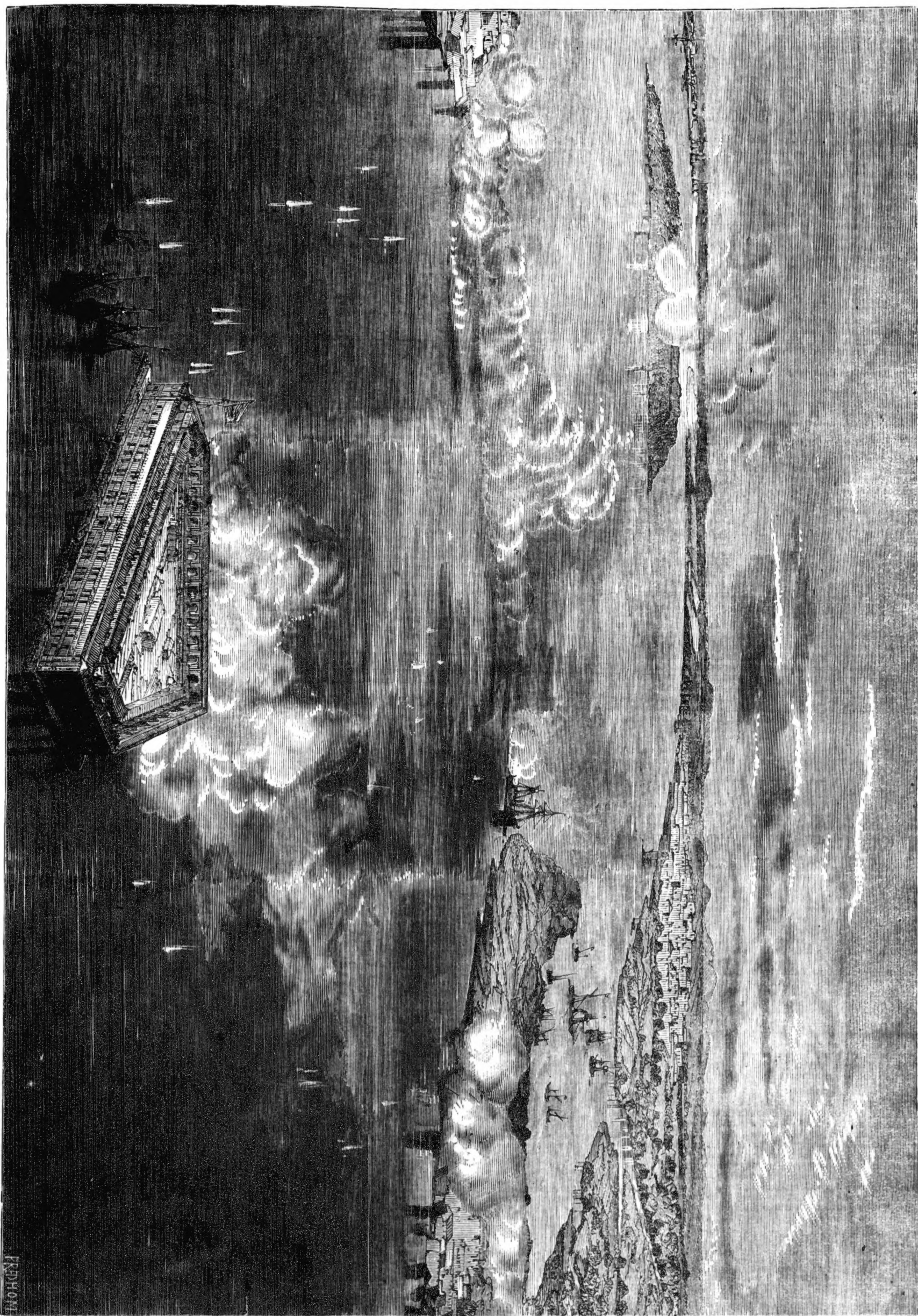
Meanwhile General Gortschakoff has addressed an order of the day to the troops of the first corps d'armée stationed in Poland, and whose headquarters are in Warsaw, thanking them and General Chruleff in the name of the Emperor for "having repressed the disorders caused by the crowd of excited people in the Sigismund-place, Warsaw," on the 8th of April.

The Archbishop of Warsaw has been summoned to the palace of the Governor, and requested to prohibit the singing of the National Hymn by the clergymen. This the Prelate decidedly refused to comply with, saying that "he would not deprive the people of that which alone afforded them consolation in their grief." To show how unjust and, at the same time, how weak are edicts which excite only contempt and abhorrence amongst the people, the religious hymns have been again sung in all the churches in spite of the second prohibition, ladies in some instances stepping forward in front of the altar and commencing the tune; and some thousands of persons accompanied the funeral cortege of a Dr. Wolff to the cemetery at Powonski, heedless of the official notice which limited the attendance on such occasions to the immediate family of the deceased. Dr. Wolff had given much gratuitous advice to the poor, and the demonstration was purely a personal one. Mounted gendarmes were present, who tried to cut off the crowd, but to no purpose, for they joined the procession again by by-lanes and back streets.



RUSSIAN TROOPS CLEARING THE SUBURBS OF WARSAW.





BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER, CHARLESTON HARBOUR.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. JACKSON.)

FREDHORN



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 160.

## PRIVILEGE.

THE question of privilege which has evoked so much talk of late is now all but settled. There will be more talk about it next Monday, when Mr. Newdegate is to move an instruction to the Committee that the bill be divided into three bills, on the express ground of preserving the right of the Lords to reject either of the taxes contained in the bill; but the mover will not be successful. Indeed, there never was any doubt of the right of the House to embody all the financial schemes of the year in the bill if it thought proper to do so. All the authorities of the House, and all men specially learned in the law of Parliament, are in favour of this privilege. Lord Eversley, the late Speaker; the present occupier of the chair; the Speaker's counsel; Mr. May, the author of "The Practice of Parliament;" Mr. Bouverie, the late, and Mr. Massey, the present, Chairman of Ways and Means, are all on one side; and now that Mr. Walpole, Mr. Henley, and Sir William Heathcote, all three Conservatives, have declared that they also coincide with the authorities, there cannot be a doubt about the ultimate decision of the House; nor can there be any that the Lords will accept the situation and pass the bill. But if the Opposition in the Commons, or the Lords themselves, were to succeed in breaking up this bill into three, in order that the repeal of the paper tax might be rejected, the Commons would not be disarmed of its privilege except for the year. It has still another and effective arrow in its quiver; for it has only in future to enact taxes for the year, and the thing would be done. At present it is the custom to enact taxes permanently; but the ancient practice of enacting them for a year only may be revived, and then the power of the Lords is gone; for at the close of the year the tax will cease, and, as the Lords confessedly cannot originate a tax, the power of repealing a tax will remain with the Commons; for if they let it drop no power on earth can revive it. It is a strangely novel and anomalous sight, that of a large portion of the House of Commons anxious to renounce one of its most precious rights. We must think that the leader has taken a false step in heading this move, and has again "led his party into a ditch." And now that he knows that such men as Walpole, Henley, and Heathcote are against him we fancy that he must see his error. The leader of a great party ought to be not only sagacious and clever but magnanimous; and it is quite as much his duty to restrain and keep back his party when he sees it is wrong as it is to lead it on when it is right. Walpole, Heathcote, and Henley, if either of them had occupied the post of leader of the Opposition, would have stopped this move at once.

## SIR JAMES GRAHAM.

It was a refreshing sight to see last week the gallant old "Knight of Netherby" once more upon his legs. Sir James had been so long silent that he had come to think that he never meant to speak again. He pleads a failure of strength to justify his reticence; and, in truth, his physical powers are not what they were. When you see him stalk across the lobby you do not discover any signs of weakness, for he still walks firmly, with the same manly stride and the same elephantine step. But when he begins to speak you perceive a failure of voice which tells you at once that he is not what he was. And it is observable that, except on rare occasions when his vote is wanted, he does not stop so late in the House as he did. There is, however, obviously no failure of mental power in Sir James; for his speech in reply to Mr. Macdonough was marked by all the old closeness of reasoning, the same strong, vigorous, terse sentences, the same calm, impressive manner. In short, Sir James is still the masterly debater that he ever was. With the keen and experienced eye of a General he sees the weak points of an enemy; with the force of a regiment of heavily-armed dragoons he bears down upon the centre, and, leering round, first upon the right and then upon the left, scatters the wings of his foes to the winds. If Lord Derby is the "Rupert of Debate," Sir James is the Ironsides. Sir James rose just as the House was rising for dinner; but many who were bent upon dining when they saw him lit his massive form above the mass quietly dropped down again in their seats, and at once determined to repress their craving desires rather than miss the chance of hearing Sir James. The worthy Baronet is now simply an independent member. He long since announced that he would never take office again. But it is worthy of note that, whilst most men get conservative in their old age, Sir James has evidently advanced to a more liberal position than he occupied in his younger days.

## A NEW ASPIRANT FOR FAME.

On Friday night, after Mr. Whiteside had finished his three hours' harangue on the much-vexed question of Irish education, the House saw with surprise, and probably with some misgiving, a youthful Irishman, who had never spoken before, rise to answer the great and successful forensic and Parliamentary orator; and if certainly was a bold enterprise of the young and inexperienced youth to try a fall with such an opponent, and almost as hopeless to all appearance as that of the stripling David when he entered the lists against Goliath of Gath. But the surprise of the members was still greater when they saw the cool and collected manner in which the young man proceeded with his work, and they were more astonished still after they had listened some quarter of an hour to his speech, for in truth he made a most successful début; and, without hesitation or faltering, and with singular propriety of language and modesty of demeanour, delivered a speech of an hour's length which, to say the least of it, would have done credit to a far older man and more experienced debater; indeed, we have not often heard a better, whether we consider the language, matter, or manner. So struck was Mr. Disraeli with this speech that, during the temporary retirement of the Speaker to get his tea, the Opposition leader walked directly across the House, shook the young member by the hand, and congratulated him upon his success. The name of this young aspirant, or rather, we should say, his title, is "The O'Connor Don." His real name is Charles Owen O'Connor. "The O'Connor Don" is his title as the head of an ancient clan. He came into Parliament for Roscommon last year, is only twenty-three years old, and looks younger than he is. He is the son of "The O'Connor Don" who represented Roscommon from 1831 to 1847.

## LAZINESS OF THE HOUSE.

The House will not attend to any business now except the Budget and the Estimates. On the Budget it will talk with prolixity and pertinacity, and the Estimates it will discuss with unprecedented fierceness, but all other business it neglects. On Wednesday, for example, there was an array of orders of the day sufficient to occupy a couple of nights; but few of those who had charge of them were present, and the House was up and away before three o'clock. And on Friday, though Irish education was the topic, a subject which usually evokes a debate "as long as my arm," and the Government wanted to get into Supply, it was found to be impossible to keep the House, and so we counted out at eight.

**THE STEPNEY MURDER.**—Legal proceedings of some importance are likely to arise out of the murder of Mrs. Emsley, of Grove-road, Stepney, for which Mullins was executed some months ago at the Old Bailey. The murdered woman was the owner of a large amount of household property in the neighbourhood of Stepney, Bethnal-green, and Bow. She died intestate, and lately a Mr. Williams has put in a claim to the whole of the property as heir-at-law, being, as he says, next of kin, through a sister of the unfortunate woman. In order to establish the claim thus unexpectedly set up, he has already, through his solicitors, commenced upwards of 200 actions of ejectment to recover possession of the disputed property, and also instituted suits in Chancery against Mr. Rose, who acted as solicitor to Mrs. Emsley. Mr. Williams some days ago made an application to the Master of the Rolls that Mr. Rose, who claims to be a mortgagee of a considerable portion of the premises for money advanced, might be restrained from selling the property; but the injunction was refused, and the matter ordered to stand over.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

DELHI PRIZE MONEY.

Lord DE GREY and RIPLEY, in reply to a question from Lord BARNES, explained the difficulties which had prevented the distribution of the Delhi prize money, and said that as soon as the names had been sent in from the different regiments the rates would be struck and the money distributed. The subject then dropped.

THE STAGE DUES.

Lord HARDWICKE asked her Majesty's Government whether it was true that the question of the Stage Dues had been settled, and that the price agreed upon was to be paid within a short period?

Lord GRANVILLE protested against such a question being asked without due notice.

Lord WODEHOUSE said as he was not the chief of the department for Foreign Affairs he could not answer the question, of which no notice had been given, without consultation with the noble Lord at the head of that branch of the public service.

Their Lordships adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

EQUITY JUDGES.

On the motion that the House at its rising do adjourn to Thursday next, Mr. WHITESIDE asked whether it was in the contemplation of the Irish Government to increase the number of superior equity Judges to ten, or whether it was contemplated to confer the jurisdiction of a Court of Chancery upon the Court for the sale of landed estates in Ireland?

Mr. CARDWELL said no such change was contemplated.

THE BISHOP OF RIPON.—THE PROTESTANTS IN SPAIN.

Mr. HENNESSY called attention to the circumstance of the removal of a tombstone at Richmond, Yorkshire, by order of the Bishop of Ripon, which contained an inscription asking prayers for the soul of the deceased. He asked if the Government had any knowledge of the matter?

Sir R. PEEL said he was requested by the merchants of the south of Spain to call attention to the fact that at Xeres and Port St. Mary they were in the having service performed for them by a Protestant clergyman; but that privilege had been recently refused to them by the English Vice-Consul (a Roman Catholic) at the instigation of the Spanish Government. In another case the child of English parents had been refused burial. Had any steps been taken to induce the Spanish Government to treat Protestants in a different manner?

Lord PALMERSTON said he could not give Mr. Hennessy an answer, but the attention of the Home Secretary would be called to the subject. He had received the memorial alluded to by Sir Robert Peel, and instructions had been sent to our Minister at Madrid to make earnest representations to the Spanish Government with regard to the intolerant religious system generally which they pursued. As regarded concessions to British subjects in reference to religious worship and schools, there was an understanding that they were to be allowed, and if there had been any case like that stated, on its being represented to the Spanish Government, no doubt the inconvenience complained of would be amended. If the conduct of the Vice-Consul had been such as was stated, right would be done.

The motion for adjournment was then agreed to.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. WHITESIDE moved:—"That the advantages afforded by Parliamentary grant for the purpose of education in Ireland ought not to be denied to any school upon the ground that the Holy Scriptures are daily read therein; that a discretion should be vested in those who are entrusted with the administration of the grant for educational purposes in Ireland to assist, with books and other school requisites, all persons and societies engaged in carrying on the work of moral and religious education in schools in Ireland who may conscientiously decline to subscribe to the rules of the National Board, subject, so far as relates to secular education, to the inspection and control of the officers of the board; that the recent reconstruction of the National Board is not calculated to ensure a satisfactory administration of the Parliamentary grant for education in Ireland." The right hon. gentleman contended at length that the national system had been a complete failure; that the voluntary system, both among Protestants and Roman Catholics, educated a far greater number of children; and urged that the principle of excluding those schools in which religious instruction was afforded from participation in the Parliamentary grant was unjust and impolitic. He suggested that the board should be abolished, and a commission, consisting of a Protestant and Roman Catholic and the Chief Secretary for Ireland, substituted for it.

The O'Connor Don said that the resolutions were of a sectarian character, and were calculated to induce aid to be given only to the class of Protestants with whom Mr. Whiteside's sympathies were in common, and to the exclusion of the Roman Catholics. He agreed, however, with much that had been said by the right hon. gentleman to show that the national system had not been successful, but he did not think that any beneficial result would follow from the proposition which had been made.

At the close of the hon. member's speech the Speaker retired for a short time, and on his return the House was counted out.

THURSDAY, MAY 23.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House reassembled after the Whit Sunday holidays.

HER MAJESTY'S NAVAL YARDS.

Sir F. SMITH, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply upon the Navy Estimates, called attention to the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the control and management of her Majesty's naval yards, and moved "That it is expedient that such reforms should be made in the control and management of her Majesty's naval yards as will tend to promote greater efficiency, and consequently to secure greater economy, in those establishments."

Sir M. SEYMOUR supported the motion, and pointed out several alterations which, in his opinion, would be great improvements.

Lord C. PAGET defended the conduct of the Commissioners of the Admiralty. He entirely concurred in the recommendations of the Commission, and some of them would be put into operation at as early a date as possible, the Admiralty being anxious to carry them out as rapidly as was convenient. He hoped that the motion, therefore, would be withdrawn, as, in the event of its being carried, it would prevent the House going into Committee of Supply.

In the course of a discussion which followed, Mr. LINDSAY condemned the extravagant system followed in the building of our ships, and contended that, out of the £12,000,000 expended upon the construction of our vessels of war within a recent period, £2,000,000 at least might have been saved to the country.

The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, the Navy Estimates were under consideration during the remainder of the night.

**PAPER.**—The weight of paper manufactured in the year ending March 31, 1860, was 213,947,462 lb.; in the year 1861, 229,503,035 lb.; the net produce of duties for 1860 being £1,291,769; and for the year 1861, £1,305,991. Under the Customs Department, the quantity of paper of foreign manufacture of every kind entered for home consumption was in 1860, 468,992 lb.; and for the year ending March 31, 1861, 473,135 lb.; the net produce thereof being £15,581 for 1860, and £33,403 for 1861.

**TREASURE TROVE.**—The *Nazione* of Florence announces that a considerable number of the jewels stolen from the gallery of the Uffizi a few months ago have at length been discovered in a most singular manner. A hen belonging to a farm not far from the Porta Romana, in scratching up the ground in the yard, picked up something shining, which caught the attention of a person present, who happened to be well acquainted with the jewels in question. The bit of shining stuff turned out to be a precious stone from one of the necklaces which had been stolen. The authorities were immediately sent for, and a search being made, a large bundle of jewels, all belonging to the same collection, was dug up.

**"SAVAGE CLUB" AMATEUR PERFORMANCE.**—The members of the Savage Club, whose performance of a new burlesque at the Lyceum Theatre, at the beginning of last year, caused so much sensation, and achieved so remarkable a success (being honoured by the attendance of her Majesty and Court), are about to repeat their efforts, and for a similar good object—the relief of the widow of an eminent artist left in destitute circumstances. As on the previous occasion, the burlesque authors belonging to the club have undertaken to write an entirely new extravaganza, the principal parts in which will be acted by members of the club and other gentlemen of name and note in connection with literature and art. Amongst other well-known names spoken of as likely to figure in this laudable undertaking we may mention those of Mr. J. R. Planché, Mr. Palgrave Simpson, Mr. Francis Talford, Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, Mr. H. J. Byron, Mr. William Brough, Mr. Andrew Halliday, Mr. Leicester Buckingham, Mr. J. Hollingshead, Mr. J. Lowe, Mr. E. Draper, Mr. E. Falconer, Mr. J. C. Brough, Mr. T. Archer, Dr. Strauss, Mr. F. Lawrence, Mr. Horace St. John, &c. We believe that a favourite melodrama, also acted by the literary amateurs, will precede the burlesque, and that the performance will take place at the Lyceum in the middle of June.

## THE CENSUS.

The Census returns from the rural districts on the eastern side of the country have now been very generally made up. It would be an endless task to recapitulate the figures of each parish, but it will not occupy much space to append the returns for some of the districts:—

District.	Parishes.	1851.	1861.
Wisbeach	22	35,791	33,247
Barking	3	9,888	10,920
Romford	10	24,607	26,838
Oakham	30	11,508	11,078
Spilsby	23	8,868	8,406
Beccles	13	7,475	7,422
Wangford	14	6,540	6,393
St. Faith's	31	11,628	11,891
Swaifham	34	15,045	14,211
Halsted	6	9,655	9,380
Hedingham	8	7,485	7,018
Barton	15	12,334	12,541
Bourn	36	21,319	20,115
Peterborough	41	29,121	33,088
Sleaford	21	8,657	8,031
Holbeach	—	19,151	18,103
Uppingham	12	5,969	6,031
Long Sutton	5	8,379	7,997
Mildenhall	13	10,351	9,992
Willingham	14	9,683	9,682
Linton	22	14,161	13,489
Samford	28	12,649	12,724
Wickhambrook	9	5,172	4,825
Blything	49	27,365	26,860
Docking	14	5,546	5,463
Litcham	14	5,512	5,410
Chesterton	10	8,153	8,203
Orsett	19	10,507	11,209
Braintree	14	17,561	17,169
Tattershall	11	5,975	5,552
Denton	18	7,448	7,227
Grantham	25	16,185	16,270
Fornham	19	6,086	5,757
Barnack	20	6,186	5,581
Aslackby	10	4,781	4,730

These returns are selected at random from the counties of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk. They illustrate somewhat in detail, the stagnation of the agricultural population to which reference has already been made.

**UNCLE TOM IN A BALLET.**—"On Saturday night," writes a correspondent of the *Athenaeum* in Genoa, "we saw a new ballet, 'I Bianchi e Neri,' taken from 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'; it was pretty and amusing, and contained a new feature. When the blacky is reading his Bible, the scene opens to a vision of heaven, and a song is heard with harp accompaniment, which had a most original effect in ballet. The prima donna, who sang it, was called out; and, being dressed in white muslin wrapper, looked quite in character. The ballet ends with a grand ball, when the elegant ladies in blue and pink have, as partners, niggers with white cravats and waistcoats, and woolly hair. It is truly a ballet-master's idea, of perfect future felicity and emancipation from slavery—the ecstatic privilege of dancing with white ladies."

**THE WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.**—A very interesting paper on the wages of agricultural labourers was read a few days since by Mr. Purday at an ordinary meeting of the Statistical Society. It was shown that the average weekly wages of the agricultural labourer had, in 1824, been 9s. 4d., and that they were now 12s., giving an increase of 2s. 8d., or 29 per cent. The average of thirty-four counties, counting North and South Wales as two, was in 1824, 9s. 4d.; in 1837, 10s. 4d.; in 1860, 11s. 7d. Of these counties Hereford was the lowest, the wages being, in 1860, 9s. Devon, Dorset, and Wilts were respectively 9s. 2d., 9s. 4d., and 9s. 6d. Cumberland was the highest, the wages in that county having last year been 15s. The three next highest counties were Westmorland, which was 14s. 3d.; Durham, 14s. 3d.; and Northumberland, 14s. The West, East, and North Ridings of York were next in the scale, each being 13s. 6d. After them followed Surrey, Kent, and Southampton, the figures being 12s. 9d., 12s., and 12s.

**ENORMOUS METEOR.**—The Melbourne papers give an account of an enormous meteor that fell in the neighbourhood of Ballarat on the morning of the 4th of March last. When first seen at Geelong it was in the south-west, its shape was that of a cone, the base being foremost. The light was intense, resembling that of melting iron. The meteor left behind a trace of light like the tail of a comet. At one place a sulphuric smell was perceived. There was no disturbance of the magnetic element at the time. The state of the weather was very peculiar. The heat was very oppressive, and had been so for several preceding days. The meteor appeared to come out of a thin white cloud. When it fell to the ground it exploded with a loud noise and enveloped a man who was near in a cloud of smoke. The man was struck on the knee, which was slightly injured. When it fell the earth was deeply furrowed for about twelve yards.

**THE "CHIVALROUS" SOUTH.**—The subjoined letter, addressed by a Southern house to its correspondents at New York, may be taken as a sample of those which are daily received. The writers do not hesitate to allude to their default of payment as the fulfilment of a patriotic duty:—"Nashville, April 29.—Dear Sirs,—The unholy war now waged by the North against the South has so deranged all our business calculations that we cannot promptly meet our notes falling due at Messrs. —, Philadelphia. Our arrangements to raise money were agreed upon, and we could even have anticipated some of our paper but for the troubles consequent upon the perfidy of an Administration from which we were induced at least to hope for peace. This last is denied us at any price, and, instead, we are promised the horrors of civil war. In justice to ourselves as individuals, and as a section, we cannot create a confidential debt at home to meet one due to a hostile people. We do not mean by this to repudiate our debt to the North; by no means, but intend, if all we have—which is three or four times our indebtedness—is not swept from us by this unjust strife, to pay the utmost farthing we owe as soon as quiet and safety will enable us. That we have among our creditors personal and political friends only makes this necessity the more regretful. We would prefer that our notes should not be protested, and, to avoid this, we inclose a list of our New York creditors, with the request that you will see each of them, and explain, or let them see, this letter. Your prompt attention will much oblige, truly yours, A. —, A. —, and Co.—Messrs. —, New York."

**POLICY OF THREE-KING OF NAPLES.**—The following letter from Francis II. of the Two Sicilies, to the Prince de Santa-Lucia, Duke de Ripalda (Mr. Bermudez de Castro), Minister of Spain, has been published:—"Rome, April, 14. My dear Prince,—I have read with surprise that certain Opposition journals of your country accuse you of having given me at Naples absolutist counsels, by employing the influence of your friendship to favour the cause of a short-sighted resistance. Any one who could make such an imputation must be but little acquainted with passing events. From the moment of my accession to the throne you advised me to make such great administrative and political reforms as would reorganise and strengthen my Government. When you then conjured me to go into Sicily to prevent by prudent measures the disturbances which you discovered in the horizon; when you recommended me to efface the remembrances of the past by a complete amnesty, and pointed out the propriety of granting representative institutions to my people; when you spoke to me of great material works to be done; and of the army to be reorganised, you know that I received your ideas with pleasure, and that we passed many hours together devising the best means for carrying them into execution. But you are also aware of the terrible intrigue of treasons, paid by Sardinia, which surrounded my youth and acted on my inexperience, exciting around me mistrust, and raising all kinds of obstacles to retard the realisation of those judicious measures. You are not ignorant by what false revelations, by what sophistical despatches, and by what a concert of iniquities and falsehoods, I was made to renounce my visit to Palermo—my plan of operations at Messina and in Calabria—and my campaign to Salerno, where I was expected by my faithful and unfortunate troops, who have since covered themselves with glory in the Volturro and at Gaeta. It is a sad story, but you played a part in it which you honour, and which does honour to your country. If you have shown yourself a statesman full of foresight and firmness at Naples, I have found you also a man of courage in the hour of great crisis; and believe me, my dear Prince, I shall never forget the generous friendship you have shown me during the five months of danger and privation which you passed with me at Gaeta. I authorise you to make what use you may think proper of this letter, and believe in the sincere affection and friendship of yours, &c., FRANCIS DE BOURBON."

**BUSTING OF A WATERPOUT.**—A waterspout burst over the small town of Schkolen, between Naumburg and Zeitz, in Prussia, during the night of the 13th inst., and caused a great amount of damage and some considerable loss of life. More than twenty buildings were destroyed, and, in addition, horses, cattle, sheep, and other domestic animals were killed by the falling ruins, or were swept away by the immense body of water that fell. Worse than this, nine human beings were killed by the catastrophe.



## JEFFERSON DAVIS'S MESSAGE.

THE Message of the President of the Southern Confederation has been published. It is far too lengthy a document to transfer to our columns, but a few extracts will give some idea of its general character. It commences by reviewing the relations which under the Constitution bound the several States of the Union together, and then at considerable length describes the nature of the controversy on the slavery question which has arisen between the two sections. He then says:—

With interests of overwhelming magnitude imperilled, the people of the Southern States were driven by the conduct of the North to the adoption of some course of action to avert the danger with which they were openly menaced. With this view, the Legislatures of the several States invited the people to select delegates to conventions to be held for the purpose of determining for themselves what measures were best adapted to meet so alarming a crisis in their history.

Here it may be proper to observe that from a period as early as 1798 there had existed in all the States of the Union a party, almost uninterrupted in the majority, based upon the creed that each State was, in the last resort, the sole judge as well of its wrongs as of the mode and measure of redress. . . . The democratic party of the United States repeated, in its successful canvass in 1856, the declaration made in numerous previous political contests, that it would "faithfully abide by and uphold the principles laid down in the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature in 1799; and that it adopts those principles as constituting one of the main foundations of its political creed."

The principles thus emphatically announced embrace the right of each State to judge of and redress the wrongs of which it complains. In the exercise of a right so ancient, so well established, and so necessary for self-preservation, the people of the Confederate States in their conventions determined that the wrongs which they had suffered, and the evils with which they were menaced, required that they should revoke the delegation of powers to the Federal Government which they had ratified in their several conventions. They consequently passed ordinances resuming all their rights as sovereign and independent States, and dissolved their connection with the other States of the Union.

Mr. Davis next alludes to the appointment of the three Commissioners to Washington in order to negotiate with the Federal Government, as a proof of the pacific intentions of the Confederate States. He charges that Government with breach of faith, and asserts that they endeavoured surreptitiously to relieve Fort Sumter, although they had promised the commissioners that they would communicate to them any change in their plans. He next comments on the President's proclamation calling for an army of 70,000 men, which he stigmatises as unconstitutional, and then refers to the measures which he considered it advisable to adopt:—

Deprived of the aid of Congress at the moment, I was under the necessity of confining my action to a call on the States for volunteers for the common defence. I deemed it proper further to issue a proclamation inviting application from persons disposed to aid our defence in private armed vessels on the high seas, to the end that preparations might be made for the immediate issue of letters of marque and reprisal, which you alone, under the Constitution, have power to grant. I entertain no doubt you will concur with me in the opinion that, in the absence of a fleet of public vessels, it will be eminently expedient to supply their place by private armed vessels, so happily styled by the publicists of the United States "the militia of the sea," and so often and justly relied on by them as an efficient and admirable instrument of defensive warfare. I earnestly recommend the immediate passage of a law authorising me to accept the numerous proposals already received.

I cannot close this review of the acts of the Government of the United States without referring to a proclamation issued by their President, under date of the 19th inst., in which, after declaring that an insurrection has been broken out in this Confederacy against the Government of the United States, he announces a blockade of all the ports of these States, and threatens to punish as pirates all persons who shall molest any vessel of the United States under letters of marque issued by this Government. Notwithstanding the authenticity of this proclamation, you will concur with me that it is hard to believe it could have emanated from a President of the United States. Its announcement of a mere paper blockade is so manifestly a violation of the law of nations that it would seem incredible that it could have been issued by authority; but, conceding this to be the case so far as the Executive is concerned, it will be difficult to satisfy the people of these States that their late confederates will sanction its declarations, will determine to ignore the usages of civilised nations, and will inaugurate a war of extermination on both sides, by treating as pirates open enemies acting under the authority of commissions issued by an organised Government. If such proclamation was issued, it could only have been published under the sudden influence of passion, and we may rest assured mankind will be spared the horrors of the conflict it seems to invite.

After alluding to the secession of Virginia, the free navigation of the Mississippi, and the loan, the Message thus concludes:—

In conclusion, I congratulate you on the fact that in every portion of our country there has been exhibited the most patriotic devotion to our common cause. A people thus united and resolved cannot shrink from any sacrifice which they may be called on to make, nor can there be a reasonable doubt of their final success, however long and severe may be the test of their determination to maintain their birthright of freedom and equality, as a trust which it is their first duty to transmit undiminished to their posterity.

A bounteous Providence cheers us with the promise of abundant crops. The fields of grain which will, within a few weeks, be ready for the sickle give assurance of the amplest supply of food for man; whilst the corn, cotton, and other staple productions of our soil, afford abundant proof that up to this period the season has been propitious.

We feel that our cause is just and holy; we protest solemnly in the face of mankind that we desire peace at any sacrifice, save that of honour and independence; we seek no conquest, no aggrandisement, no concession of any kind from the States with which we were lately confederated: all we ask is to be let alone; that those who never held power over us shall not now attempt our subjugation by arms. This we will, this we must, resist to the direst extremity. The moment that this pretension is abandoned the sword will drop from our grasp, and we shall be ready to enter into treaties of amity and commerce that cannot but be mutually beneficial. So long as this pretension is maintained, with a firm reliance on that Divine Power which covers with its protection the just cause, we will continue to struggle for our inherent right to freedom, independence, and self-government.

## A STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

MR. C. M. CLAY, the Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to the Court of St. Petersburg, has addressed a long letter to the *Times*, in which he endeavours to correct some misapprehensions which he believes prevalent in this country concerning the quarrel on the other side of the Atlantic. The letter is as follows:—

Sir,—Allow me your journal to make a few remarks upon the complications of the United States of America, which I am surprised to find are so little understood on this side of the Atlantic.

1. "What are we fighting for?" "We, the people of the United States of America" (to use the language of our Constitution), are fighting to maintain our nationality, and the principles of liberty upon which it was founded—that nationality which Great Britain has pledged herself, both by past comity and the sacred obligations of treaty, to respect—those great principles of liberty, that all power is derived from the consent of the governed; trial by jury, freedom of speech and the press; that "without law there is no liberty"—which we inherited from Great Britain herself, and which, having been found to lie at the base of all progress and civilisation, we desire to perpetuate for ourselves and the future of all the nations. The so-called "Confederate States of America" rebel against us—against our nationality, and against all the principles of its structure. Citizens of the United States—of the one Government (not of the Confederate States, as they would have the world believe, but of "us the people"), they propose, not by common legal consent, but by arms, to sever our nation into separate independencies. Claiming to "be let alone," they conspire against us; seize by force our forts, stores, and arms; appropriate to themselves our mints, moneys, and vessels at sea; capture our armies, and threaten even the Capitol at Washington.

The word "secession" is used to cover up treason and to delude the nations. They stand to us in the relation of one "people"; the idea of "State sovereignty" is utterly delusive. We gave up the old "Confederation" to avoid just such complications as have now occurred. The States are by our Constitution deprived of all the rights of independent Sovereigns, and the National Government acts not through State organisations but directly upon the citizens of the States themselves—to that highest of power, the right of life and death. The States cannot keep an army or navy, or even repel invasion, except when necessity will not allow time for national action; can make no treaty, nor coin money, nor exercise any of the first great essential powers of "sovereignty." In a word, they can no more "secede" from the Union than Scotland or Ireland can secede from England.

The professed friends of the independence of nations and popular rights, they have not only overthrown the Constitution of the United States but the

Constitutions of the "Confederate States" themselves; refusing, in every case, to refer their new usurpations to the votes of the people, thus making themselves doubly traitors to both the States and the nation. The despotic rulers over 4,000,000 of enslaved Africans, they presume to extend over us, the white races of all nations, the same despotism, by ignoring the political rights of all but their own class, by restrictions upon the popular franchise, by the suppression of the freedom of speech and of the press, by the terrorism of "lynch law," or tyrannical enactments, backed by standing armies; to crush out the independence of thought, the ineradicable instincts of our world-wide humanity—with the atrocious dogma that negro slavery is the only basis of real conservatism and progressive civilisation, and that the true solution of the contest of all time between labour and capital is that capital should own the labourer, whether white or black.

2. "But can you subdue the revolted States?" Of course we can. The whole seven revolted States (2,173,000) have not as much white population as the single State of New York (3,851,363) by 1,500,000 people. If all the Slave States were to make common cause they have only 8,907,894 whites, with 4,000,000 slaves, while the Union has about 20,000,000 of homogeneous people, as powerful in peace and war as the world has seen. Intelligent, hardy, and "many-sided," their late apparent lethargy and weakness was the self-possession of conscious strength. When they had made up their minds that force was necessary they moved upon Washington with such speed, numbers, and steadiness as is not surpassed in history. We have the money (at a lower rate of interest than ever before), the men, and the command of the sea and the internal waters. We can blockade them by sea and invade them by land, and close up the rebellion in a single year if we are "let alone!"

3. "But can you govern a 'subjugated' people and reconstruct the Union?" We do not propose to "subjugate" the revolted States. We propose to put down simply the rebel citizens. We go to the rescue of the loyal Unionists of all the States. We carry safety, peace, and liberty to the Union-loving people of the South, who will of themselves (the tyranny overthrown) send back their representatives to Congress, and the Union will be "reconstructed" without a change of a letter in the Constitution of the United States. Did England subjugate Ireland and Scotland? Are the United Kingdoms less homogeneous than of old, before the wars against rebellion? So will the United States rise from the smoke of battle with renewed stability and power. In turn, now let us ask the British public some questions.

1. "Where should British honour place her in this contest?" We overthrow that political element in America which has all through our history been the studied denouncer and real healer of the British nation, while we have been always from the beginning the friends of England. Because, though under different forms of government, we had common sympathies, and a common cause, and therefore a common interest. England was the conservator of liberty in Europe—the Old World; we are in the New. If "the confederate States" are right, then is England wrong. If slavery must be extended in America, then must England restore it in the West Indies, blot out the most glorious page of her history, and call back her freed men into chains! Let her say to the martyrs of freedom from the nations who have sought refuge and a magnanimous defence on her shores, return to your scaffold and your prison-house; England is no more England!

2. "What is the interest of England now?" If we may descend to such inferior appeals, it is clearly the interest of England to stand by the Union of the States. We are her best consumer; no tariff will materially affect that fact. We are the best consumer of England, not because we are cotton-growers or cotton-spinners, agriculturists or manufacturers, but because we are producers and manufacturers and have money to spend. It is not the South, as is urged, but the North, who are the best consumers of English commerce. The free white labourer and capitalist does now, and always will, consume more than the white master and the slave.

3. "Can England afford to offend the great nation which will still be 'The United States of America,' even should we lose part of the South?" Twenty millions of people to-day, with or without the Slave States, in twenty years we will be 40,000,000! In another half-century we will be one hundred millions! We will rest upon the Potomac, and on the west banks of the Mississippi River, upon the Gulf of Mexico. Our railroads will run 4000 miles upon a single parallel, binding our empire, which must master the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. Is England so secure in the future against home revolt or foreign ambition as to venture, now in our need, to plant the seeds of revenge in all our future?

If Ireland, or Scotland, or Wales shall attempt to secede from that beneficent Government of the United Kingdom which now lightens their taxation and gives them security and respect at home and abroad, shall we enter into a piratical war with our race and ally, and capture and sell in our ports the property and endanger the lives of peaceable citizens of the British empire all over the world? I enter not into the discussion of details. England, then, is our natural ally. Will she ignore our aspirations? If she is just, she ought not. If she is honourable and magnanimous, she cannot. If she is wise, she will not.

M. MONTALEMBERT AND MR. GLADSTONE.—M. de Montalembert has addressed the following letter to the *Ami de la Religion*:—"Sir,—Mr. Gladstone has done me the honour to write, remonstrating against the expression which I attributed to him in my late letter to M. de Cavour, which referred to a speech of his on the 4th of August, 1849, in which he was reported as applying the words, 'sanguinary mendicant' (*mendicant sanguinaire*) to Pope Pius IX. The Chancellor of the Exchequer states that there is no official report of Parliamentary debates in England, and that the speech from which I took the quotation is not quite correct. The word 'sanguinary' never passed his lips, and in using the English word 'mendicant' he only meant to describe the solicitations of the Pope to procure foreign soldiers in order to reduce his people to submission. He adds that in the same speech he spoke of the Pope as a personage worthy of all respect, both on account of his personal qualities and as the head of a great body of Christians. Finally, he affirms that he never meant to wound the filial piety of the members of the Roman Church. I did not recognise the illustrious statesman, whose friendship was dear to me, in the words which revolted me. I again find him, with satisfaction, in the honourable susceptibility which characterises his remonstrances."

THE EARTHQUAKE AT MENDOZA.—We have now received full information of the total destruction, on March 20, by earthquake, of one, if not three, populous cities of the Argentine Republic—namely, Mendoza, San Juan, and San Luis. The former has certainly been destroyed, and very few of its population of 15,000 souls have escaped to tell the fearful tale. The news was sent by telegraph to Valparaiso, and was confirmed by the subsequent arrival of a mail courier from the ruined city. The latter stated that he arrived at Mendoza on the morning of the 20th; that at half-past eight p.m. a brief but excessively violent shock of earthquake, lasting but six or eight seconds, destroyed every building, public and private, in the city, and that the number who were enabled to escape was very limited. The streets being narrow, the buildings high, and the inhabitants totally unused to such phenomena, were paralysed with terror, and neglected to seek refuge in the open courts of their dwellings until too late. The postmaster was buried beneath the ruins of the post-office, the Governor was missing, and the messenger, when asked why he brought no certificate that the mails were lost, replied, "There was no one left to write it, nor materials to write with." The aspect presented by the city after the first shock was terrific. Hoarse subterranean thunders deafened the air; animals of all kinds rushed frantically through the open spaces, howling; the earth opened and vomited forth floods of water; while, to crown the scene of horror, flames burst from the ruins and consumed nearly the entire business portion of the city, with its dead, its dying, and its wounded. In the midst of this desolation man has put forth his hand, not to sympathise and relieve, but to heap misery upon misery. The inhabitants of the surrounding districts have swarmed in to plunder and murder the few survivors of the general destruction.

INTERESTING RELIC.—A highly-interesting relic of bygone days was fished up in the trawling-net of the smack *Vigilant*, near the Goodwin Sands. It consists of a large Roman vase of remarkably strong earthenware, 2ft. 6in. in height, and 5ft. 9in. in circumference, having two handles and a round bottom; it has evidently been intended, when used, to be slung. It is capable of holding sixteen gallons. When first brought up it presented an extraordinary spectacle, being completely covered with seaweed, oyster and mussel shells, together with a deep and very beautiful coating of corallines.

THE SUZ CANAL WORKS.—A traveller who is now visiting the works of the Isthmus of Suez sends the *Sicde* the following details, dated El Guizir, 3rd inst.:—"The central service of the supplies and the administration for all the points of the Isthmus is organised at Damietta. From 6000 to 7000 Arabs are now employed. There are upwards of 2000 at Timsale, where the works are carried on with an intelligent activity which must secure results. I was surprised to see those masses of native workmen using, with the greatest facility, all the French tools and improved machinery. Courageous and persevering efforts were necessary to organise all those works, which are carried on with the greatest order and precision. The company advances towards its object, and it will attain it. The matériel employed is immense. The wheelbarrows alone are more than 14,000 in number. There are steam saw-mills, machinery for cutting metal and wood, hospitals, bakehouses, butchers' shops—in fact, nothing is wanting."—The Suez Canal Company held their annual meeting a few days since, when M. de Lesseps read a report, in which it is stated that 8000 men are at work in the isthmus, and that the canal for vessels of small burden will be opened next year. A call of 100 francs per share is to be made in July. Of course the finances of the company were represented as in a satisfactory condition. The report was approved and confirmed.

## Literature.

*New Zealand, the Britain of the South: with a Chapter on the Native War, and our Future Policy.* By CHARLES HURSTHOUSE. Second Edition. Edward Stanford.

A much-improved edition of Mr. Hursthouse's book on New Zealand comes opportunely when public opinion concerning that country is somewhat dispirited. The native war is not a pleasant affair; a colony that requires a large body of troops is not the best form of a colony; and many of our readers will remember the dexterous gunnery practice of the famous New Zealand chief who visited our shores some thirty years since. As Mr. Hursthouse says, the New Zealander is not an ordinary savage, but more like a brave and ferocious European. True, he has now almost abandoned cannibalism, but very lately he was always ready to fight any person for the mere reward of a meal. Perfectly alive to the advantages of having the white man in their island, of the advantages to be derived in every way in securing education and in obtaining firearms, it is astonishing to find how large a number of the natives have followed the fortunes of William King, whose sole reason for fighting is to prevent the English from purchasing certain lands which belong to other natives, and which those natives are willing to sell. Such shortsightedness contrasts oddly with the astute policy by which some of the landowners contrived to get paid twice over for the same province. With cleverness that would have done honour to any legal gentleman who deserved hanging, two parties got the money by each insisting that the land belonged to the other, after the money had been paid down, and restitution was a case of two birds in a bush. The Governor knew the value of peace and quietness, and paid twice over with all the meekness of a saint and a millionaire. The chances are that a mail or two will bring intelligence of the defeat and death of Mr. William King, and then affairs will go quietly enough. That any permanent competition can be made it is idle to suppose. One Armstrong gun would convince the New Zealander. The point to be insisted upon now is to immediately drop all amabilities and convince the natives of our strength and of our firm intention not to give way one inch.

Mr. Hursthouse's book is one of the most wonderful specimens of *couleur de rose* that we have ever met. It is said (in every provincial journal during the Parliamentary recess) that Voltaire, having read Rousseau's "Eulogy on the Savage State," drily remarked that "Really it was enough to tempt a man to walk on all fours." And so Mr. Hursthouse paints in such glowing colours that it seems impossible not to prefer all the enchanting annoyances of life in a new colony to all the desolating luxury in the midst of an ancient civilisation. If Lady Clara Vere de Vere pleases we will take shipping for the antipodes. The "languid light of her proud eyes" having so long "sickened of the rolling hour," she will be delighted with a log hut, with a good sheep run, a brown servant or so, and any amount of mutton to eat and wool to comb. She must make dumplings and beds, peel onions, leave off working macaws in Berlin stuff, drink pale ale which is brewed to perfection, and sell her piano, if she have one, as it will go for a preposterously high price. In return for the horrors she will find her eyes brighter day by day; and her hair, that was getting thin at the parting, will become so thick that she must be careful not to break the comb. Her step will be elastic, her figure developed, her lips and cheeks deliciously red, and her breath better than a rush of air from Mr. Rimmel's establishment. Her husband's dancing days will be over, but he will be a first-rate shot, and always free from bilious attacks in the morning. He will make a large fortune in a few years, and—if you and he can tear yourselves away from so fascinating a spot as New Zealand—you can come back to England, repurchase the "Old Hall," and be as dull and conventional as you please for the remainder of the natural term of your lives.

That is a fanciful sketch of Mr. Hursthouse's views of the probabilities of the results of emigrating to New Zealand. We are bound to admit that he appears to prove the halcyon conclusions in every way. His experience has been very great, and he says nothing for which he is not prepared to be held responsible. In fact, from the first moment that the idea of going to New Zealand occupies the brain, he accompanies the reader every step of the way, buys the outfit, secures the berth, packs the carpet bag, takes the cab, puts you on board, arranges the shelves and pegs, says something pleasant to the captain, gives a hand to the anchor, and "off she goes." In Wellington or Auckland, or wherever it may be, Mr. Hursthouse tells you what to do to become comfortable, respected, and wealthy; and the process appears easy enough. It is a thoroughly convincing book—well written, in a lively, graceful, yet strong and healthy style—at the back of which is an enthusiastic contempt for anybody afflicted with a "man-milliner" mania. We recommend it as the book on the subject.

*The Twelve Great Battles of England.* Inscribed to the British Rifle Volunteers of 1860. S. Low, Son, and Co.

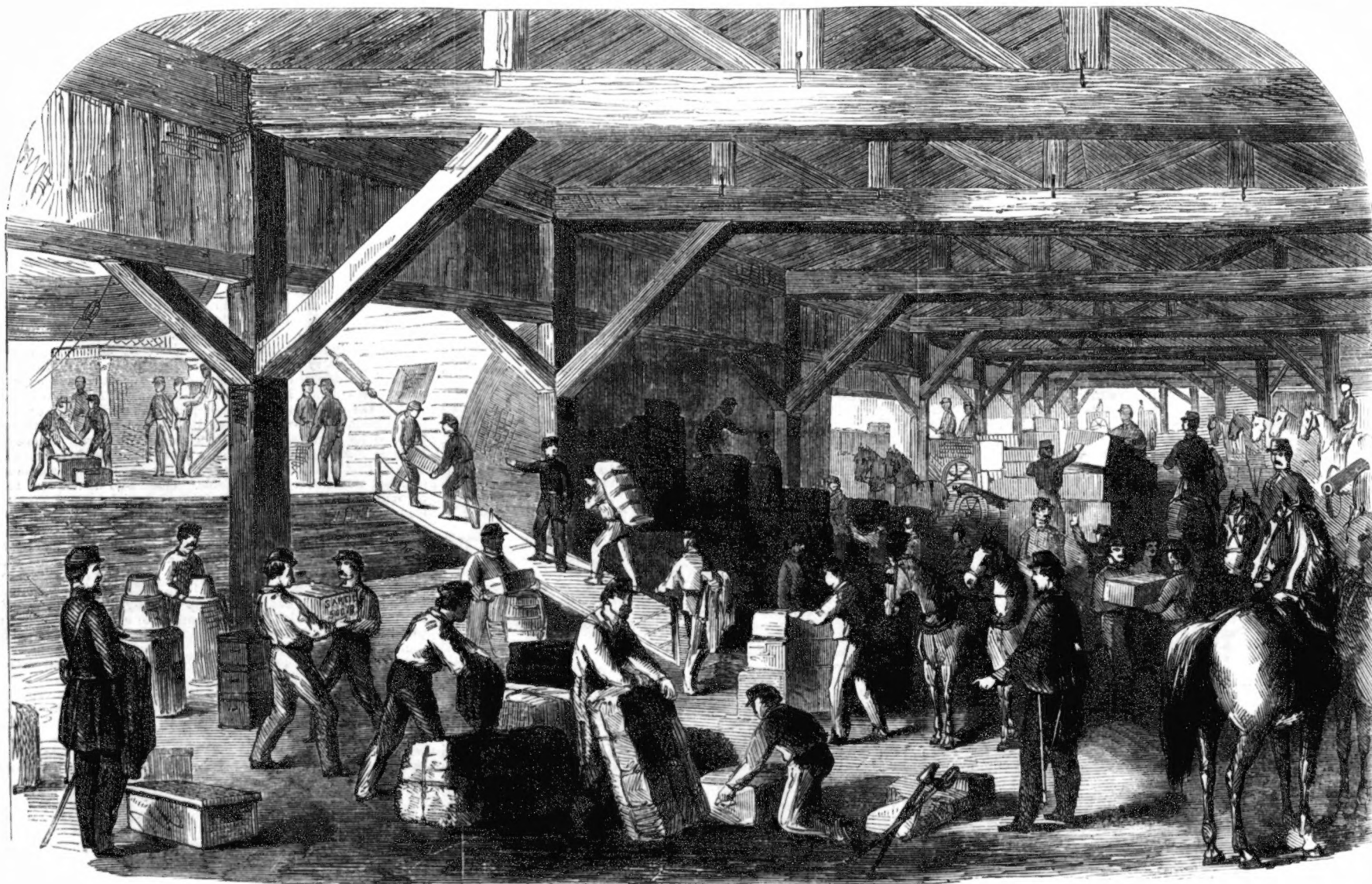
Strictly confining his subject to battles between armies, the author counts twelve, and insists that there are no more, which have a distinct and undeniable claim to be held in everlasting remembrance by all Englishmen. From such a plan it is doubtless correct to exclude all events described as "skirmishes" or "affairs." The list includes Hastings, Falkirk, and Bannockburn; Edward III. and Henry V. in France; Blenheim and Ramilies, three great Peninsular victories, and Waterloo. Not improbably encouragement given to the present volume might induce its author to revise his conscientious opinion and favour readers with a second series. He does not pretend to estimate the glory of a battle according to the causes which led to it; and, therefore, considering that "a turbulent and aggressive policy" (to quote Palmerston on Russia in 1854) has been not exactly the exception to British policy from the earliest period to the present time, and that the British are invariably victorious, there is not wanting material for one or two more "Twelve Great Battles." And, indeed, this little book is so carefully and clearly written that a second series, even if the battles could not be called so great, would be very acceptable. Those who do not read the old chroniclers, and those who are embarrassed by the diffuseness of modern historians, may here find a valuable summary of large and confused events. Similar accounts of Cromwell, of Clive, and of Wellington's Indian campaigns would certainly find favour; for the writer has the power of describing a battle-field in a manner so vivid as to make the reader feel glad that he is only exposed to the incidents upon paper. In having these "Twelve Great Battles" at the same moment under review a striking fact is, that, with the exception of Waterloo, modern warfare is a harmless affair compared with the execution done by our ancestors. A single battle in the early days would leave on the field more slain than the English lost by fighting and disease combined in all the Crimean campaign. Ancient bowmen did more than modern artillerymen; and all this was done in the face of the fact that England had not one trained soldier. The troops were raised for one particular event. These facts are dwelt upon in an address to the volunteers at the close of the volume, in which the volunteers are assured that, as a good marksman with an Enfield rifle will be a more dangerous enemy than a skilful archer, there is every reason to place the utmost confidence and reliance on this new branch of the service.

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.—The *New Zealander* announces that a disposition has been exhibited on the part of several chiefs of rank amongst the Thames and Waikato tribes to bring about a peaceful solution of the present difficulty. "Although as yet no practical result has been arrived at, we must hope—believing in the sincerity of the professions made by the chiefs of their anxiety to put an end to bloodshed—that their interference will not be unproductive of good."



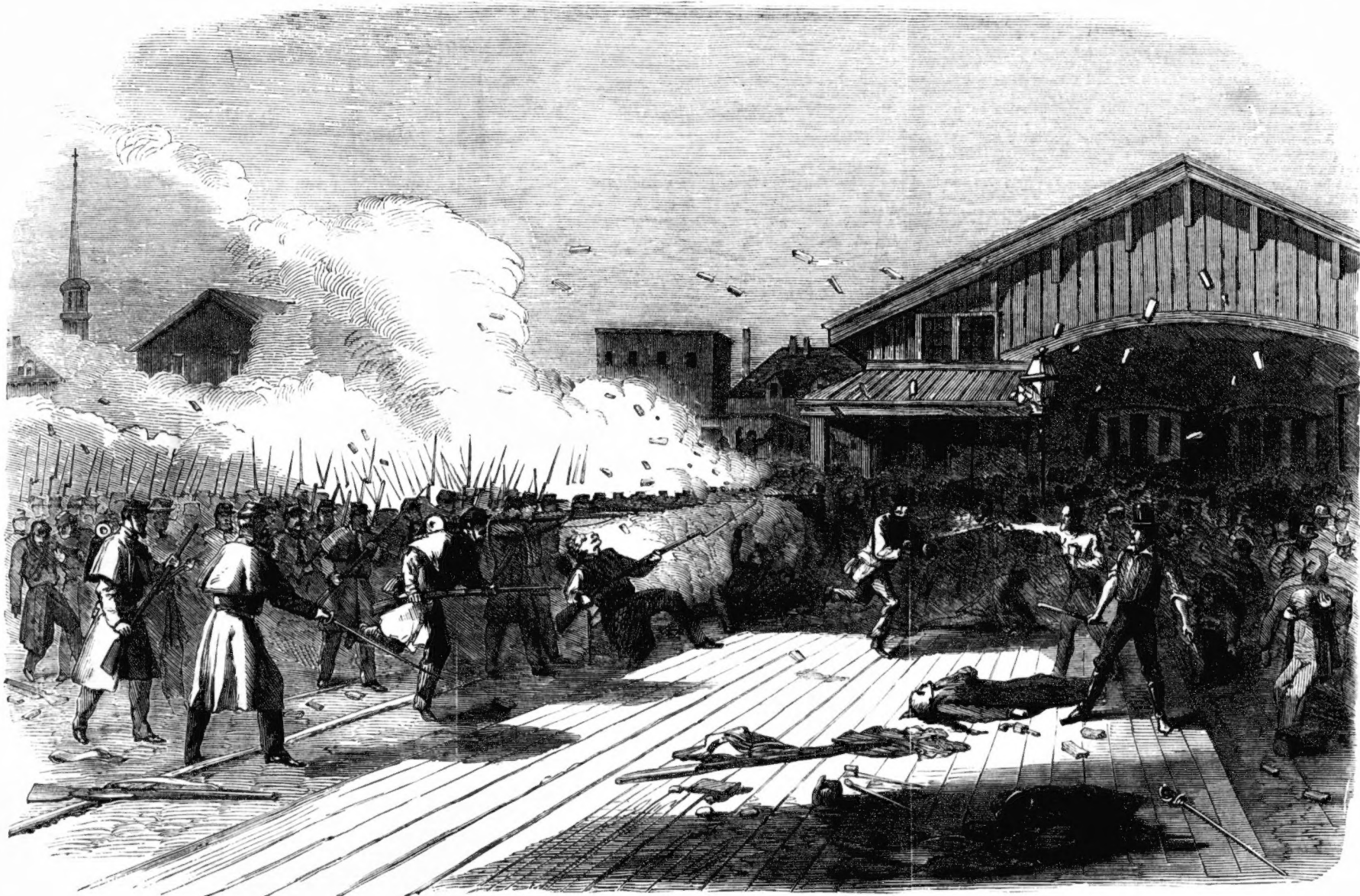


ARRIVAL OF ARTILLERY AT COLLINS'S DOCK, NEW YORK, EN ROUTE TO THE SOUTH



SHIPMENT OF WAR STORES ON BOARD THE UNITED STATES' STEAM-SHIP ATLANTIC, NEW YORK

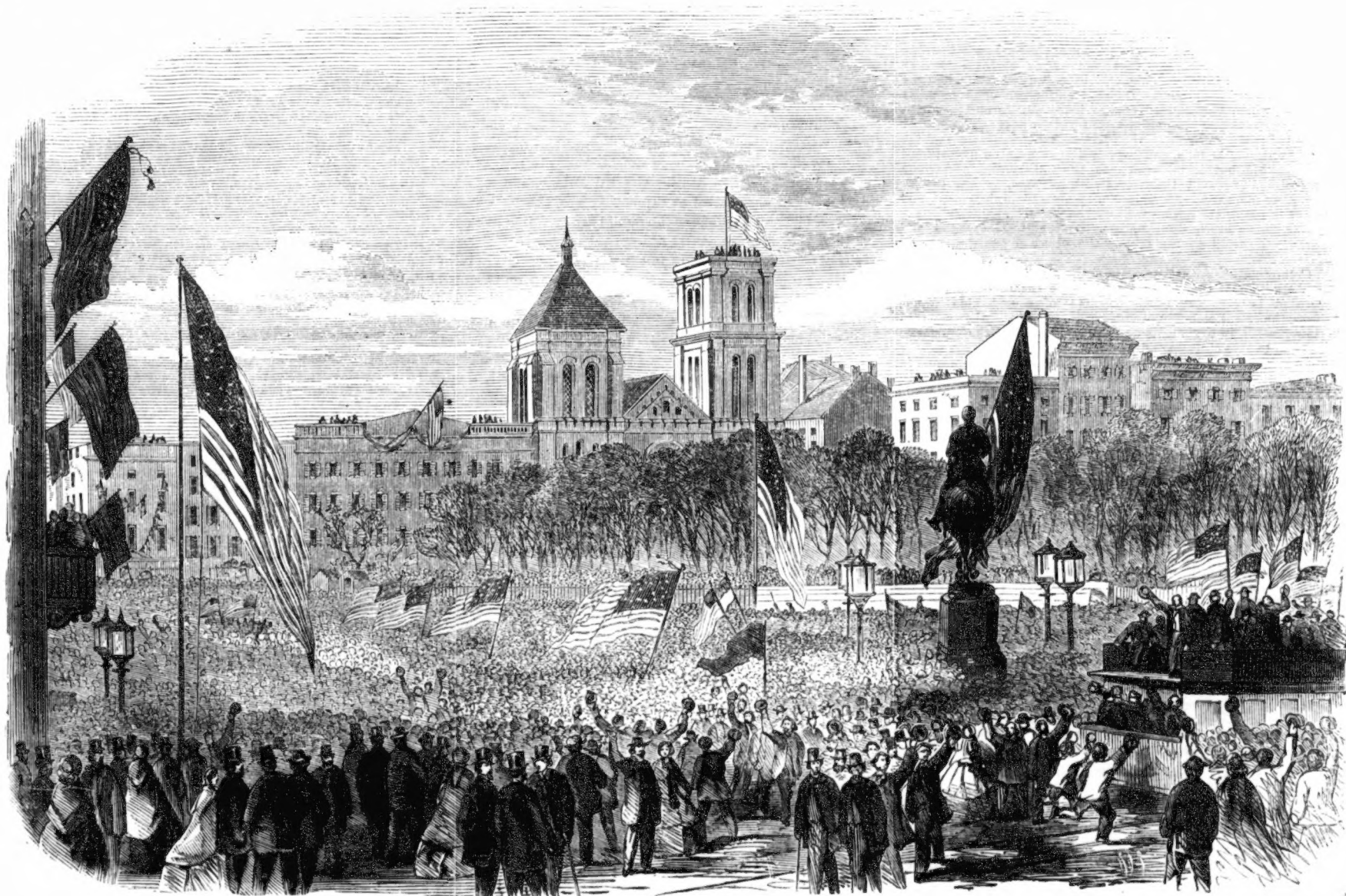




THE 7TH REGIMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS ATTACKED BY A BALTIMORE MOB.

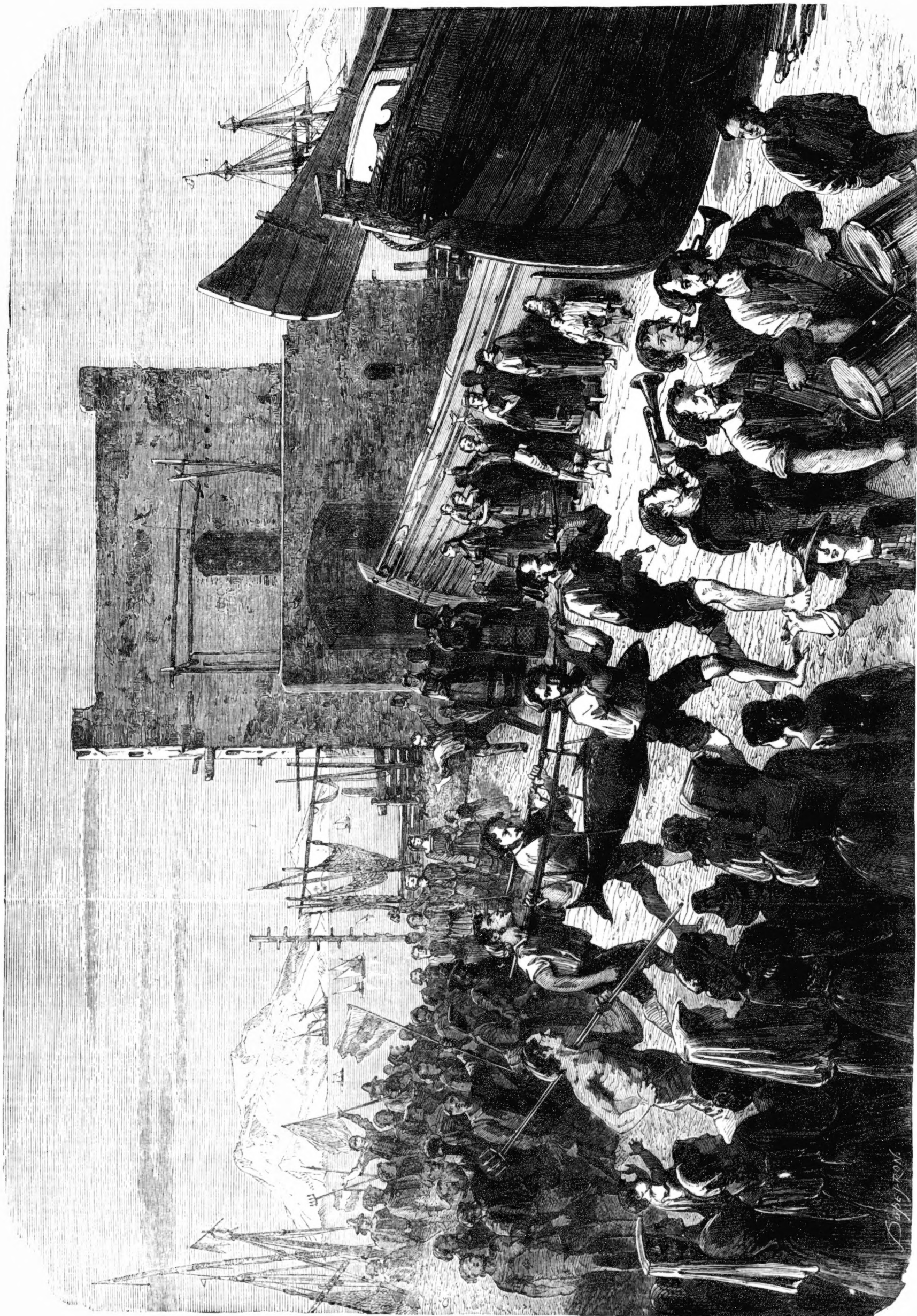
**THE WAR IN AMERICA.**

We have already given our readers some description of Fort Sumter and its Southern opponent, Fort Moultrie—names which will now be associated with the commencement of that disastrous war which, while it must inevitably destroy the true republican unity of the States of America, will for ever be a record of the most terrible and fratricidal conflict which has been seen for centuries—a civil war without either the powerful animus or the warlike instincts which actuated the battles of the dark ages.



GREAT MASS MEETING IN UNION-SQUARE, NEW YORK.





FISHERMEN OF PALERMO CARRYING IN TRIUMPH THE FIRST TUNNY FISH OF THE SEASON — FROM A SKETCH BY EDWARD DEAR



### THE FIRST "TUNNY" OF THE SEASON CARRIED THROUGH THE STREETS OF PALERMO.

THE tunny-fish is one of the most valuable denizens of the waters of the South Italian seacoast, and the commencement of the fishing season may well be triumphantly heralded by a procession in his honour. The tunny fishery, indeed, employs so large a proportion of the population that there is a sort of recognised King of the Fishers, whose laws on all subjects connected with the proceedings of the craft are wellnigh absolute, and whose skill as a fisherman it may be supposed is undeniable. The vessels employed in the fishery are of considerable size, while the great weight and strength of the fish render the labour very severe. They are caught in a net which consists of a series of chambers of cordage, the last being the strongest and best able to sustain the struggles of the captives. It is the duty of the King of the Fishermen to judge of the precise moment when, from the appearance of the shoal, the nets shall be hauled, and on his giving the signal by hoisting a flag they are dragged on board, and the fish dispatched with bills or tridents. The tunny-fish is of very fine flavour, lives in all parts of the Mediterranean, and is from three feet to six feet in length, sometimes reaching the enormous size of nine feet, while its weight has been known to reach 1000lb. On the occasion of the commencement of the fishing season the whole population of the district turn out to witness the triumphal entry of the first tunny, which is selected by the "King" for its size and beauty, and, after being carried round the streets of the town by four of the most stalwart fishermen to the accompaniment of flags and music, is, in company with some of his companions, cooked and devoured at an inauguration feast.

### "MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS AT LOCH LEVEN CASTLE."

A WEARY episode in a sad life has Mr. Clay chosen for his facile brush. Which of us is not familiar with the history of the lovely and erring Queen of Scots? Who has not felt more than half inclined to forgive her follies, and her worse than follies, when thinking on her loveliness, her loneliness, her temptations? She was an unhappy woman through her life, and it was during her imprisonment in Loch Leven Castle that that deep sadness settled on her soul, and never left it until soul and body parted company under the headman's axe at Fotheringhay. "The Queen grew sadder from day to day," says the catalogue, quoting from Scott's vivid historical novel; and the hopeless dreariness, the void lassitude, have been admirably expressed by the painter. Even the spirited page Roland Grème himself seems downcast, although the bewitching Catherine Seaton is in the chamber with him.

### THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

[THIRD NOTICE.]

FOREMOST among rising painters stands Mr. Leighton—erst of "Cimabue" celebrity—who this year sends several contributions. Mr. Leighton's painting has not found favour in the eyes of the hanging committee; he has been ruthlessly "skied," put into bad places, and shunted into inferior rooms. His largest picture, "The Dream" (399), represents the vision of a sick lady who, at the crisis of her disease, dreamed that she was dead and had approached, in spirit, the Eternal Throne, when the Saviour gently repelled her, telling her she had yet further purification to go through on earth.

This was a difficult subject to transfer to canvas; but Mr. Leighton has undoubtedly succeeded. The spirit, in its earthly garb, is in the presence of the Redeemer, whose figure and face are of the old conventional type; but there is great refinement in the suppliant, submissive attitude of the female figure, and very good filmy radiance in the accessories of cherubim, and aureola, and floating drapery. No. 276, "Paolo e Francesca," is a very different idea, being one of the most powerful, most striking, and most daringly glowing representations of Dante's famous episode. A thrill of intensest passion pervades the unhappy pair, and is rendered with a half-dreamy, hazy voluptuousness, which is quite in keeping with the subject, while the painting of the evening sky is really grand as a work of art. Quite in a different style is again No. 550, "Lieder ohne Worte," where a pretty Greek girl is seen in a state of half-kief, daintily sunning herself, as she leans against the fountain where her pitcher is filling, regaling her ears with the plashing of the water and the song of the surrounding birds. This is in every respect a very excellent picture, the gorgeous sunlight and the deep blue of the sky are exquisitely rendered, and the figure of the girl, both in composition and execution, is highly creditable.

Mr. Wallis's charming picture of "Elaine" (492) is also one to which to append three Victoria crosses of excellence on the margin of your catalogue. "The fair, the lovable," in the calm repose of death, her long hair flowing over her shoulders, and with a sweet, sad expression in her face, is just being lifted into the barge amidst her sorrowing friends. There is a wonderfully rich colour throughout this picture, and the artist seems to have thoroughly caught the subdued and chastened spirit which a perusal of the poem evokes.



IMPRISONMENT OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS AT LOCH LEVEN CASTLE.—(FROM A PICTURE, BY A. B. CLAY, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

No one yet, however, seems to have been able to limn the "dumb servant" in a Tennysonian spirit. We may say, that this is the one shortcoming in Mr. Wallis's otherwise excellent picture.

Mr. A. Solomon seems to be the victim of two opposing influences; on the one side, the fair angel of art whispers in his ear, "I have bestowed on you my divine afflatus—show yourself worthy of my regard;" on the other side, the demon of worldliness plucks him by the sleeve and says, "Paint to please the publishers and the public, and them alone." And Mr. Solomon generally strives to square the matter by obliging both genii. Thus, after his exhibiting the touching, charming, poetical, "Waiting for the Verdict," he the next year contributed "The Lion in Love," a by no means good example of a bad school; and this year he sends two pictures as opposite in thought, merit, and treatment, as light and darkness. Let us take the best first. No. 180, "Consolation," a *Sœur de Charité* is visiting a bereaved Breton mother. How powerful is the dreary, hopeless expression in that mother's hard-set face, turned towards the empty cradle! What a holy radiance lights the sweet face of the nun, whose upward-pointing hand shows the theme she is gently inculcating! What quietude, what ease, what unpretending pathos in the whole picture! Now turn to "Le Malade Imaginaire" (184), and behold the picture, painted—as Peter Pindar's razors were made—"to sell," and which probably will sell at a high price, and go to enrich the walls of some Manchester manufacturer. This is the essence of caricature, broadly drawn, highly coloured, the invalid himself, the two physicians (for one of whom a well-known London actor has undoubtedly sat), the waiting-woman—all, all are gross caricatures. It is sad to think that public taste requires a painter to paint down to it. On the other hand, it is

pleasing to find that Mr. A. Solomon generally finds time and heart to give the public one specimen of his real genius.

Very good, indeed, is Mr. Marks's "Franciscan Sculptor and his Model," a grimful of natural humour and quaint observance of the world. The stalwart young monk who is hewing away at the stone, the idiotic, beer-swilling, toothache-having brainless boor, who with water-krug on shoulder is standing for his model; and the two boys, one earnest, one dandified and half-patronising on a ladder, are thoroughly characteristic; and there is a great fund of humour in the various monks—the enthusiastic, the ribald, and the sneering—as seen in their various attitudes of observation. Mr. Brooks's "Life-boat Going to the Rescue" is a good picture, marred by a certain smugness and conventional but unnatural clean propriety. The same may be said of Mr. Lidderdale's "Inventor" (303). Why Mr. Leslie's picture of "The Ancestral Helmet" (79) has a good place, it is impossible to say. No. 162, "An Evening Study," an old lady looking out of the window over the country hushed in evening stillness, is a very pretty bit, by A. L. Herford. There is much humour in a little picture, "The Knight's Home," by Mr. J. B. Burgess (190). The Knight himself is a jolly, comical fellow of the W. H. Payne pantomime order of knighthood, and his son is a hearty English boy. Mr. Bostock's "Dinah's Prayer" (207) has a rough fervour, and shows an appreciation of the author's text. Mr. Calderon's picture (264), "Liberating Prisoners on the Young Heir's Birthday," is a fine picture. There is great natural truth in the earnest figure of the child and in the calm repose of its parents. But why did Mr. Calderon make one of the principal prisoners so completely a low-comedy character? Mr. E. Hughes's "Bedtime" is a copy—by no means a servile nor a bad one—of Mr. Hook's manner.

Miss Osborne's "Escape of Lord Nithsdale from the Tower" (258) is a really powerfully painted picture. There is great strength in the woman's expression, much concentrated anxiety and determination. The man is somewhat theatrical in attitude and eye, but the general painting is decidedly good. There is humour, exaggerated certainly, but still showing verve, in Mr. West's "Toothache" (251); and there is a quaint, old-fashioned power in Mr. Whistler's "Mère Gérard" (272).

### THE WATER-COLOUR SOCIETIES.

Nos. 5 and 53, Pall-mall, the galleries of the Old and New Water-colour Societies, are just now the resort of those connoisseurs who go to study art for art's sake, and who do not care to throng the heated rooms of the Academy for the mere sake of staring at well-dressed mobs—for the next six weeks all that can be comfortably seen therein.

Each of the two societies still retains its shining lights, and each, as in past years, has its few promising neophytes; but the regular visitor will find but little novelty in either, either in subjects or their treatment. Knowing the names of the artists, one can guess the style of pictures they will exhibit; looking at the pictures, one can, without the aid of the catalogue, guess the names of the artists; nor does either society number any such striving, conscientious young men as year by year are seen in the ranks of the Academy, pressing hard upon their seniors, and withdrawing public attention from those who have long absorbed it.

In the Old Society the landscape-painters have the advantage. Mr. T. M. Richardson has three or four capital pictures—No. 87,



"Coaster Discharging Coals" on the sands at low water, in a thoroughly Isle of Wightish bay; No. 196, "The Breakwater at Bonchurch;" and, best of all, No. 26, "Castle of Ischia," where the blue Mediterranean haze, bespeaking intense heat and overclouding the sky-line, is rendered with thoroughly natural effect. Mr. Duncan, who used to be the Clarkson Stanfield of *aquarelle*, has but one sea-piece, No. 3, "Crabcatchers in Caswell Bay," with a capital sea and a thick, cloudy sky. His other two are inland landscapes—"Christmas Time" (152), a cleverly-painted snow-piece, with good feathery snow, as distinguished from the ordinary wool, and No. 52, "On the Thames near Shiplake," in which there is an extraordinary effect of trees seen through a raincloud.

Mr. Alfred Newton has several excellent pictures, the best being his "View of Menton" (24), in which there is a lovely opal sea; and his "Light" (20), representing the path of light traced on the sea by the sun, reminding us much of a photograph by M. Gustave Le Gray. There is a very curious mingled moon and lamp light effect in No. 278, "The Arrival of the Diligence at Menton." Mr. G. A. Frapp sends several contributions, all conscientiously and soundly painted, No. 46, "Langharne Castle," being perhaps the best. Mr. S. P. Jackson is a steadily-advancing artist; capital are his "Polper Cove" (39) and his "Lizard Lights" (59), which is something like Mr. Knight's coast scenery, though somewhat too sombre. We are not so well satisfied with his "Mount Orgueil Castle, Jersey" (161), a more ambitious but less able production. Mr. W. C. Smith does not show any improvement from his Italian trip: there is a hard mannerism about him which apparently he finds impossible to surmount. The Messrs. J. and W. Callow are both good. Mr. John Callow's "Off the Reculvers" (58), two outbound Indiamen towed out by two Thames tugs, being specially happy in tone and treatment.

How charming are all Mr. Birket Foster's gems! This admirable artist shows in his water-colour painting all that softness of tone and delicacy of manipulation which have so long rendered him the prince of landscape wood draughtsmen. No. 192, "Gleaners," is a thorough prose poem in itself. No. 237, "Burnham Beeches," is a slightly poetised but most harmonious representation of that most glorious of all England's sylvan spots; and to No. 225, "A Cottage," we cannot award higher praise than by saying it is an exquisitely-coloured specimen of those admirable vignettes so perfect in drawing, so true to rustic nature, and so artistic in their setting and fringe with which the master's pencil has adorned all the best of our recent illustrated books. Mr. W. Taylor pleases us much. There is great freshness and both sportsmanlike and artistic appreciation in his pictures—notably in his "From my Cottage on the Moor" (268), and his "Gamekeeper's Cottage" (137), both breezy, fresh, and unconventional. In the rack we may mention Messrs. Dodgson, Branwhite, and Andrews as moderately successful, and Mr. Rosenberg as bold and determined, specially in his Norwegian scenes.

The figure painters do not shine very brightly. Mr. F. W. Topham is thoroughly happy in his delineation of Irish peasant characters in "The Angel's Whisper" (25); but there is not the smallest poetry or refinement in what should be the main subject of the composition. Mr. Oakley is prolific, but tame and dauby to a degree. Mr. F. Smallfield, a very clever artist, has a strange predilection for ugliness which tells against him in all save his "The First from Him" (174), a very prettily-composed picture of a young lady, in her night dress, reading her lover's letter by moonlight. Mrs. H. Criddle's attempts are simply bad, anatomically incorrect, and physically hideous, while Miss M. Gillies is but little better. "The Old Ironside" (275) is a very fine head by Mr. Burton; and Mr. Hunt has the head of a negro boy admirably drawn, and marvelously truthful in colour and expression. Mr. John Gilbert is decidedly not up to his usual mark. "The Arrest of Hastings" (267) is intensely theatrical and smudgy, while "The Return of the Expedition" (248) is coarsely painted, and unnatural in tone and composition.

Changing the venue, on coming to the New Society, we will take the figure-painters first, and arraign Mr. E. H. Corbould at the bar. Very poor is this gentleman's conception of "Elaine, the Lily Maid of Astolat" (88), where the principal figure looks like a bad wax doll, and where the strong colouring does not take away from the confusion and want of intelligence exhibited in the composition. The "dumb servant" might be a Thames waterman in a black garb. Almost as bad are the scenes from "Adam Bede," in No. 208, "Hetty and Captain Donnithorne in Mrs. Poyser's Dairy." The figure and face of Hetty, a plump, buxom *poysanne*, are tolerable; but Captain Donnithorne is a mere dull, interesting swell; while Mrs. Poyser is a silly drab, holding a wooden doll instead of a baby. The pans of the dairy and all the minor details of the picture are well painted. Poor Dinah was often misrepresented, but surely never so much as by this red-headed woman in the cart, No. 218! Mr. Absolon has many pictures, both figures and landscapes, but in none does he rise above his usual mediocrity; perhaps his "Contrast" of the volunteers of 1810 and 1860 (303-4) is his best. Mr. Tidey's "Genevieve" (109) is ludicrous in its sheer badness. Mr. Carl Werner's "Venice in her Pride and Power" (180) is in many respects a masterly production: granted that it is theatrical, which mode of treatment is inevitable from the nature of the subject, there is great power displayed throughout in the proud, defiant attitude of the standing gondolier—in the variety of expression in the pose of the masked heads—in the general colouring of the picture, which is warm and satisfactory. The surrounding medallions illustrating the bravo's story are very cleverly painted. Mr. Harrison Weir, in his own line, is untouchable. His "Parmigan" (132) and "Red Grouse" (158) are perfect gems. Mr. Jossling has three or four capital heads, full of character and staid, and, generally, well painted.

Among the landscape-painters Mr. Edmund Warren bears away the bell—his "Rest in the Cool and Shady Wood" (212) being one of the loveliest pictures ever contributed to this or any other exhibition. The sunlight falling through the trees in patches on the background, the ripe cornfield adjacent, and the clear blue distance are all boldly and naturally rendered. Mr. Rowbotham has many contributions, both of home and foreign subjects. He never paints ill; but we prefer his Isle-of-Wight bits to his Italian scenes, and, best of all, we like his "Old Breakwater, Bonchurch" (258).

Mr. Vacher's "Snowdon" (11) and "Llanberis" (166); Mr. A. Penley's "The Sea, the Troubled Sea" (168); Mr. Philip's "Too Rough for Fishing" (224); and Mr. Pidgeon's "Woods of Taplow and Cliefden, with an Autumnal Effect," are all excellent specimens of their artists' style; but the demand on our space forbids us noticing them in detail.

THE BLACK MAN.—In half an hour after the English papers of Thursday week reached Paris the "black man" set out on his morning round. The "black man" is the name popularly given to the functionary whose duty it is to go round and give an *unofficial* warning to the newspapers in the name of the "Director of the Press." Never was his countenance more serious and his accents more impressive than on Friday morning. With an air and a tone of voice awfully imposing he informed the journals of the most enlightened capital of Europe that, in the absence of M. de Persigny (M. de Persigny was at that moment engaged in constitutional exercise, and probably meditating fresh casualties on the freedom of discussion), M. de Laguerrière "invited" them not to give the least hint to their readers that there was held anywhere in London a fest called the Literary and Dinner, at which the Duke d'Aumale presided, and after dinner made a speech in English on English literature, and proposed toasts. Of course, with the consummate tact, with the acute perception of political necessity, which so eminently distinguish the Parisian press, it understood its duty, and was silent.

A KIND OF FATALITY seems to hang over the Hungarian Diet. It commenced its labours by the celebration of a funeral mass for Count Szeghényi's death; its sittings were soon after interrupted by the death of its President, M. Palocz, and on the very day it was to begin the discussion of the Address, the Chamber had to adjourn in consequence of Count Teleki's decease.

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

WITH the advent of the child Amina disappears the veteran Norma. It is the Alpha and Omega of the lyric drama. Patti comes—Grisi disappears. The juveniles of opera will be restored to, and the classic antiquities will disappear from, the repertoire. Art can never be at a standstill. Woe betide the artist who falls into the error of considering herself as indispensable! Grisi fancied, with Mario, that she could repeat the coup de théâtre of 1846, quod Lumley with (eye. Alas for all human hopes! When the prima donna and the tenor signed with Smith, in July, 1860, an engagement, little did they conceive that it was their death-warrant. Public opinion has pronounced unanimously on this treason. The "Prophète," "William Tell," "Don Giovanni" without Grisi and Mario, would alone have secured a success for the present season; but here is Patti for the coup de grâce. If the "Sonnambula" had been substituted last Saturday for "Norma" the prices for boxes and stalls would have been double. The faith which the ex-prima donna would not keep with the director, he took his revenge in keeping to with her. He spared the singer who attempted to sacrifice him. Once more did he allow her to "fret her hour" with the sickle, with a keen remembrance that the knife had been placed at his throat. The good, the kind, the forgiving, the generous English public, laughed at and reviled by the foreign artists, received her as the Diva of old; and Grisi stood forward in all her might and majesty, but sang without her once great and glorious voice. It was a ruin, but a splendid one not the less; but the Norma of 1861 and the Ninetta of 1861 who could have identified? Twenty-seven successive seasons here have done their work; the incessant wear and tear has unmistakably shown itself, and but few sensations can be snatched from the debris. Next Tuesday Lucrezia will have her mask thrown off by Orsini, and the nobles will taunt her. May the Madrid manifestoes and warnings never be displayed here! Let there be no mistake as to the feelings which will prompt the audiences of the Royal Italian Opera to cheer her in her final moments on its boards. Her lyric career will close there. Will Grisi undertake a concert campaign? Perhaps so. We have heard ex-prime donne at Canterbury Hall and at Weston's, and the managers pay high terms for any attractive novelty. When artists make money their idol no one is astounded at meeting them in strange places. In the meanwhile, if there be such persons in existence who have not heard Grisi on the stage, let not the opportunity be lost. They will at all events see a grand and imposing actress, they will listen to an exhausted voice, and they will believe in the tradition of its having been for years of the first quality, with a style of singing rarely to be found in modern times.

The star system has received its deathblow, and all sincere lovers of art-progress will rejoice at its downfall. Here are three great works of Meyerbeer, Rossini, and Mozart filling the theatre with an overwhelming attraction on off nights with the new Amina. On Wednesday night, at the second representation of the "Sonnambula," the house was filled to overflowing, and hundreds had to leave—the stalls fetching Jenny Lind prices. The Patti furore was at its height. She sang better even than at her debut; she modified her staccato ornaments, and her rondo finale was electrifying. This night (Saturday) and Monday next Patti will appear as Lucia, making the unprecedented number of five performances in one week, the "let" of boxes and stalls for four nights being for every available space. It is, perhaps, this demand for places which has suddenly inspired the notion of opening the Lyceum for Italian opera, next month, under the direction of Mr. Smith's late manager, Mr. Mapleson, who announces Titiens, Alboni, and Giuglini as his leading stars. Now, the Lyceum, with the Royal Italian Opera, after the destruction of Covent Garden, was only remunerative because the salaries and expenses were reduced one-half, and Gye invented the Crystal Palace Italian opera concerts on a Friday. But if the new Lyceum lessee has to keep up the standard expenditure his receipts assuredly will not pay for principals, leaving alone band, chorus, and other contingencies.

The Leeds musical festival for this year has been given up. The reasons for the abandonment are given at great length in the *Leeds Express*, such as flatness of trade, the exorbitant terms of leading singers, the competition of the Royal Agricultural Society in extracting the money from the local people, &c. We believe that this is all moonshine. The festival has failed to be renewed because Leeds has the misfortune to contain resident musicians animated with such intense intemperance and rabid bigotry that they have sacrificed the chance of a grand gathering to their miserable feuds. We would rather trust our lives to the tender mercies of Spanish inquisitors of the days of the early Philips than gather our opinions from the insane ravings of pedantic professors. These men are the curse of art by narrowing its area and by contracting its development. It is, indeed, a matter of rejoicing that in this metropolis the number of our musical dictators is gradually disappearing. It is in vain that they fume and foam, abuse and cry down. An appreciative public will not now be led away by high-sounding authority, and the world of enlightened criticism is so widened that the truth will penetrate. This very season works have been introduced of composers whose pages have been labored in former days. We allude to Schubert, Schumann, Wagner, Rubinstein, and Henselt. The covert-giver who boldly ventures a novelty in his programme is entitled to the sympathy and support of every amateur who thinks that the domain of art-progress is unlimited. There is no courage in taking shelter under a great name. It is very safe to speak and write *ex cathedra* of the acknowledged celebrities; but the professor who will venture out of the beaten track and select specimens from the speculative regions of composition is really exhibiting firmness which sooner or later will not be without results. Some institutions, like the Philharmonic and the Sacred Harmonic Society, for instance, most essentially retain their conservative tendency; but it is for other combinations or unions, or whatever the modern societies may style themselves, to enable the general public to ascertain whether barrenness prevails everywhere, or whether there may not be new lights forthcoming. Mr. Tennant had a "grand annual concert" at Exeter Hall on Monday, the grandeur having the attribute that it was without a symphony, an overture, or a concerto, but there was the tricky and eccentric fiddler, Ole Bull; the classic but cold pianist, Charles Halle; with Alboni, Mdlle. C. Hayes, Mdlle. I. Vinigui, Miss Lascelles, Miss Stabbaeh, Miss Spiller, Mdlle. Ferrari, Mr. Lawrence, Signor Ferrari, Mr. Charles Braham, and Herr Formes as vocalists. The only noticeable item in the programme is that Charles Braham, once a tenor, is now a baritone. Dr. Wyld had one of his "New Philharmonic" concerts at St. James's Hall on the same evening, the attraction not being the overtures of Cherubini and Weber, nor the pastoral symphony of Weber, but the star engagements of Formes, Titiens, and Giuglini. This is concert-jobbing, and not art. Mdlle. Angelo, a new pianiste, made her debut on Wednesday at the Beethoven Rooms. A MS. psalm by Herr Pauer, the pianist, "The Lord is my Shepherd," appeared in the scheme of Mr. H. Leslie's choir meeting on Thursday. The "National Choral Society" performed "The Creation" at Exeter Hall on Wednesday, under Mr. J. W. Martin's direction, Mdlle. Titiens singing the soprano part, for which the *Observer* states that she was paid 120 guineas. Now, in justice to this truly eminent singer, it should be explained that she is "farmed" by Mr. Lumley, whose agent, Mdlle. Puzzi, must have exacted the exorbitant fee from the "Nationals," unless the story be a emard. The closing of Her Majesty's Theatre will prove a godsend this season for the private-concert speculators. Titiens, Giuglini, Campi, the bull; Belart, the Spanish tenor; Mdlle. Parpa, &c., are freed from their opera engagements. The only artist at the Royal Italian Opera who is free to sing elsewhere is Herr Formes. Viurtemp, Patti, and Charles Halle were Mr. Edla's lions at Tuesday's Musical Union. N. Rubinstein, the pianist (not the great Antoine), is by this time in town. Wieniawski played at the annual

concert of Signor and Mdlle. Ferrari on Tuesday. At the second of Mr. Walter Macfarren's interesting concerts of solo and concerted pianoforte music he skilfully played in Mozart's trio in E flat, Mr. Lazarus and Mr. R. Blagrove beautifully blending the clarinet and viola parts. Lazarus also executed the clarinet accompaniment in Spohr's lied, "The Bird and the Maiden," which was so prettily warbled by Miss Robertine Henderson as to secure its redemption. Miss Messent sang artistically a very charming new song—quite a gem in fact—by Mrs. Blanchard Jerrold, "I saw them sail in sunshine," the non-printing of the words of which in the analytical programme of Mr. G. Macfarren was an omission. It was pleasant to listen again to Sterndale Bennett's admirable set in F sharp minor, rendered by Mr. W. Macfarren (piano), Sainton and Watson (violins), R. Blagrove (viola), Aylmer (violinello), and C. Severn (double bass). What a mine of musical wealth is there in Bennett's youthful inspirations! At twenty, when the masterly set, as his fellow-student, Mr. J. Macfarren, justly styles it, was composed, Bennett had written two symphonies, two overtures to Shakespeare's plays ("The Tempest" and "The Merry Wives"), two pianoforte concertos, and his Byronic "Parasina" overture. It is lamentable to think that the middle part of the career of this young genius should have been wasted (not financially, it is true) in the drudgery of teaching. Mr. and Mrs. John Macfarren co-operated efficiently in a pianoforte duo composed by him. Dussek's quintet in F minor will be heard at the final concert. Mr. W. Macfarren might also give one of Hummel's pieces. One of the best pianoforte-writers, Charles Halle, has devoted himself to a series of Beethoven recitals, exclusively consecrated to the pianoforte sonatas. Is not this *toujours perdre*? It is not fatiguing and monotonous to walk through a gallery of paintings devoted to the works of one master, however great that master may be? The ear as well as eye requires relief and variety. No musical society with this exclusiveness as a specialty has long survived after the series has been gone through. The marvellous memory of Halle in playing these sonatas, and his intellectual grasp of the composer's innermost intentions, must be cheerfully recognised. The Vocal Association had a conversazione at St. James's Hall on Wednesday night, when some curious works of art were exhibited. Amongst the vocalists and instrumentalists who won distinction were Mdlle. Del Bianco, Miss Bauks, the Swiss singers, Signor Delle Sedie, Senor Sarasat, Senor Belart, Jules Lefort, Mr. Lindsay Sloper, Mr. Benedict, Herr Oberthur, &c. The "foyer" of the Royal Italian Opera on Tuesday night was the Floral Hall, now opened as a flower market. After leaving "Don Giovanni" in the lower regions, to descend to the illuminated hall and wander amongst the perfumed parterres, was indeed refreshing. It is agreeable to record that the annual performance of "The Messiah" in aid of the funds of the Royal Society of Musicians was well attended. Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Weiss, Miss Palmer, Miss E. Wilkinson, Messrs. Sterndale Bennett, Wilby Cooper, Weiss, Winn, Wallworth, T. Harper, &c., afforded their gratuitous aid. The return of Miss Maria Hawes (Mrs. Merest) to the concert-room and oratorio-hall will demand special notice. In her the great English contralto is again heard. Höel sent M. Faure from the Opéra Comique to London. "William Tell," in return, forwards M. Faure to the Grand Opéra in Paris; whilst "Don Giovanni" will ensure him a reception in Germany. This is real reciprocity in art. The sunny South no longer absorbs the children of song. Meyerbeer has selected Faure for his forthcoming opera, and at present the great composer is leaning towards Lagura for his prima donna. Verdi has undertaken to compose an opera for St. Petersburg, where a good libretto is supplied to him. He has declined two books; but a third one, by Piave, is under way. English architects are, perhaps, not aware that the plan for the new Grand Opéra in Paris is still open for competition. Verdi's "Il Ballo in Maschera" is in preparation at the Royal Italian Opera.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1860.—The annual Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, prepared by the Board of Trade, appears this year in the convenient form of a thin octavo volume. These annual summaries extend from 1841 to the present time, but 1860 is the most remarkable year in the series. We bought and sold and manufactured to an extent unknown before. But then there was a larger population to do it. The population of England and Wales in 1860 was estimated at 20,000,000, and that of Scotland at above 3,000,000. The births in the year exceeded the deaths by 29,579; and our prospects are good, for the unprecedented number of 381,436 persons married. There are no means of completing this statement by including Ireland; but, even if its population should prove to be only 6,000,000, it is probable that the births in the United Kingdom altogether exceeded the deaths by 1600 a day. Emigration took from our shores 128,469 persons in the year, but a large deduction must be made from this for the immigration of the year, of which, however, there is no record. The number of paupers in receipt of relief cannot be given for any one date: in England it was 899,123 at the close of the year, and in Ireland 50,683; in Scotland, on May 14, 77,305—altogether rather more than 1,000,000 out of our population of 20,000,000 or 30,000,000. We were not a pauperised people, or we should not have raised as we did a net revenue of 267,458,093—the largest sum that ever found its way from the pockets of the taxpayers into the Exchequer since the close of the great European war, with the single exception of the year 1856 (the Crimean War). Comparing 1860 with seven years ago, we have added £30,000,000 to the National Debt, and raised our expenditure for the year from £16,000,000 to £30,000,000, and our civil expenditure from £7,000,000 to above £10,000,000. As for the mode in which the taxation was raised at the two periods, we levied nearly £4,000,000 more by customs and excise duties last year, but £8,000,000 more from income tax and stamps and taxes—making a considerable difference in the incidence of taxation, because, though the working classes and humbler classes generally pay about two-fifths of the customs and excise duties, the upper and middle classes pay the bulk of the direct taxation. But all classes were able to pay more in 1860 than in 1853, though that was a year of extraordinary prosperity. The declared value of the British and Irish produce and manufactures exported was £98,934,781 in 1853; in 1860 it was £135,812,817. The exports to foreign countries rose from £65,601,657 in the former year to £92,170,560 in the latter; to British possessions from £33,332,721 to £43,672,257. The progress in the cotton trade has far exceeded all others. In 1853 we sent out to clothe the world, 1,584,727,000 lbs. of cotton manufactures; in 1860, 2,705,357,118 lbs.; the declared value of these exports increased from £25,817,240 to £42,141,505. The tonnage of vessels entered and cleared with cargoes and in ballast, at ports of the United Kingdom was, in 1853, British, 10,268,333; foreign, 8,121,987; in 1860, British, 13,911,923; foreign, 10,711,369. 1016 vessels, of 211,968 tons, were built and registered in the United Kingdom in 1860, and the total number of vessels of the United Kingdom employed in the home and foreign trade (exclusive of river steamers) rose from 18,208, of 3,730,687 tons, in 1853, to 20,049, of 4,231,539 tons, in 1860. These vessels employ 171,592 men. The computed real value of our imports was not ascertained until 1854; in that year it was £152,383,053; in 1860 it was £210,648,643.

EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY.—The town of Citta della Pieve, in Italy, has been very much damaged by an earthquake. A letter from the town of the 11th says:—"The shocks continue, and are throwing down some buildings which were previously shaken. No habitation has been completely spared. The houses of the poor people are absolutely and literally uninhabitable; those of the rich are more or less damaged, and none of them will be habitable in future without extensive repairs. The Church of Sant' Antonio, where there is a fine fresco by Perugino, has been destroyed, fortunately without injuring the fresco. The other churches have been much damaged. Many houses have been entirely levelled with the ground, and the magnificent Villa Musignani is in great part destroyed. The population are unable to return, partly because there are no places to lodge them, and partly because they are afraid of the repeated shocks. It is impossible to calculate as yet the amount of the damage. It is certain, at any rate, that the population is in great distress."

UNWHOLESOME MEAT.—In consequence of discoveries recently made at Chatham of the unwholesome character of the meat furnished on several recent occasions by the army butchers for the troops at that garrison the most stringent regulations have been adopted to prevent a recurrence of such practices on the part of the contractors. The Assistant-Commissionary-General of the garrison, accompanied by an officer especially selected for that duty, and one of the sergeants connected with the barrack department, will attend at the slaughter-houses of the contractor each morning, and, after inspecting the animals selected to be killed, in order to ascertain from personal inspection that they are in all respects fit for food, will witness their being killed, and as soon as they are dressed will place his seal on the carcass of each. On the arrival of the meat at the several barracks for distribution to the troops, the seal will be examined, in order to ascertain that they have not been tampered with, after which it will be cut up for the troops.



had of the inventor, is, DENHAM KIMB, CHICAGO, ILL.



**RICHARD'S AROMATIC STEEL PILLS**  
for restoring vigour to weak and relaxed constitutions  
surpass all other medicines. In boxes, 1s. 1jd. 2s. 8d., 5s. 5d. and  
10s. 6d. Address, 65 Charing-cross; and of all Medicine Vendors.

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 3, Catherine-street,  
in the Parish of St. Mary-le-Strand, in the County of Middlesex,  
by THOMAS FOX, 2, Catherine-street, Strand, aforesaid.









THE SOLDIER'S DREAM.

(FROM THE PICTURE BY FREDERICK GOODALL, A.R.A.)





THE SOLDIER'S DREAM.

(FROM THE PICTURE BY FREDERICK GOODALL, A.R.A.)